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1988 ANNUAL REPORT

MONTANA RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

PREPARED - FEBRUARY 1989



INCLUDES:

R.A.D. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS & ALTERNATES
SUBCOMMITTEES & SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS
MINUTES OF ALL MEETINGS
CORRESPONDENCE
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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**ANNUAL REPORT
MONTANA RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
1988**

The Montana Rural Areas Development Committee met five times during the year. The Annual meeting was held in the Holiday Inn in Bozeman, December 5, 6 and 7.

The four meetings of the Executive Committee were held on February 22 and 23 at the Gran Tree Inn in Bozeman, on May 10 and 11 at Fairmont Hot Springs, on July 21 and 22 at the Gran Tree Inn in Bozeman and on October 11 and 12 at the Gran Tree Inn in Bozeman.

The report contains a listing of the Executive Committee members, paid memberships as of March 1, 1989 and subcommittee memberships as of that date.

Also included is a copy of the by-laws, some correspondence, a copy of the minutes of the regular meetings of the Executive Committee and a complete record of the proceedings of the Annual Meeting.

This is the 12th Annual Report of the Montana Rural Areas Development Committee. The Committee has been in existence for 28 years but an Annual Report was not prepared until 1978.

Some Major Accomplishments and/or Events During 1988.

Two subcommittees were added during the year. They were "Leadership" and "Agricultural Policy."

February 22 & 23

The Executive Committee met in Bozeman. Ordered a letter sent to the Montana Department of Agriculture proposing a zero tolerance for noxious weeds in any certified seed being sold in Montana. It was reported that Ad Hoc Committee on Agriculture opposed Consolidation of Department of Livestock with the Department of Agriculture.

There was discussion of making application to the Kellogg Foundation for a grant in support of RAD.

Dean of Agriculture, Dr. James Welsh, made a detailed presentation regarding a request for federal funds to complete the Plant Growth Center at MSU. Committee approved sending a letter to Senator Melcher supporting this effort.

Workman's Compensation discussed. No action taken. The story of the Montana RAD Committee was updated and it was reported that new lapel pins had been ordered.

May 10 & 11

Beatrice McCarthy, a member of the Board of Regents, reported on the proposed changes in Admission Standards for the University system. Received a letter from Senator Melcher in response to a request for funds to enhance the Plant Growth Center at MSU. Received letters from Dean Welsh regarding emphasis on farm management, a letter from SCS regarding implementation of 1985 Farm Bill, and a letter from the Kellogg Foundation which denied a grant requested by RAD.

Bernard Harkness named Ole Ueland as his alternate replacing Keith Williams and Thompson named Milliron as his alternate.

Matters discussed included public access to state school lands, purchasing versus leasing of easements for wildlife habitat, The Resource Conservation Act, State Weed Control Coordinator, the Mission of Montana State University, cost sharing for weed control on rangelands, conservation under the 1985 Food Security Act, Worker's Compensation by the State Administrator of the program, Alternative Farming Practices, The National Advisory Council on Rural Development, and the Governor's Ad Hoc Committee on Agriculture.

July 21 & 22

Detailed discussion of the possible formulation of subcommittees on Leadership and Agricultural Policy, and action to form such subcommittees.

Had a presentation regarding the Family Community Leadership project funded by The Kellogg Foundation.

Detailed discussion of the Mission of Montana State University. It was agreed that a letter should be prepared for submission to the Board of Regents regarding this matter.

Other matters discussed included the crop and livestock situation, wildlife habitat acquisition, Montana school accreditation, Montana weed program, Extension Forester, Safety and Worker's Compensation, Russian Wheat Aphid and status of access on school lands.

October 11 & 12

James Welsh, Dean of Agriculture, and Mike Malone, Vice President at MSU discussed emphasis on research and teaching at MSU. Welsh expressed concern over enrollment drop in agriculture.

Russ Unruh was nominated as Rangeman of the Year and Kris Havstad nominated as Range Technician of the Year.

RAD budget deficit was discussed and measures taken to take care of the situation.

Other matters discussed were proposed ground water legislation, the impact of drought and drought legislation on Montana, water forum, impact of C.R.P. on Montana, Montana 1988 fire season, final plans for the Ag Policy subcommittee and the Leadership Development subcommittee.

A letter to the Board of Regents regarding the apparent current direction and mission of Montana State University, was signed by all members present and ordered sent with copies to President Teitz and Chairman Krouse.

Roy Linn, Chairman of the Safety subcommittee, reported that Workmen's Compensation would provide \$6,000. for farm safety education programs in the Extension Service.

December 5, 6 & 7

The Annual Meeting was held in Bozeman. Luncheon and dinner speakers included Lt. Governor Kolstad, Lindsay Norman, President of Montana Tech, Carl McIntosh, past President of MSU, and Don Clark, Director of International Education at MSU.

Aasheim, Evertz, Harkness, Reichman and Farris were re-elected to serve on the Executive Committee for two year. Thompson elected to continue as Chairman and Reichman as Vice Chairman. Frank Daniels named to fill vacancy of Connie Townsend who resigned, Jim Stephens designated as his alternate.

An agenda for the meeting follows. Complete proceedings of the meeting are a part of the annual report.

OBJECTIVE AND PURPOSE

The chief objective of the Montana Rural Areas Development Committee is to help develop the human and natural resources of the rural areas of the state to their fullest potential by developing processes among the people for continually solving their problems. The primary function of the RAD Committee is to establish policies, provide incentives for rural areas development and to give statewide administration and direction to county and area RAD Committees.

RAD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND ALTERNATES 1989

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PRELIMINARY AGENDA
ANNUAL MEETING
MONTANA RURAL AREA DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
HOLIDAY INN
BOZEMAN, MONTANA
DECEMBER 5,6,& 7, 1988

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1988

5:00 - 6:30 P.M. Registration poolside, Holiday Inn

6:00 P.M. Dinner Meeting Executive Committee
Minutes of last meeting
Report of Executive Secretary
Report of Treasurer
Review plans for meeting including
assignments to subcommittee
chairmen
Other as arranged

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1988

8:00 A.M. Coffee and doughnuts

9:00 A.M. Opening remarks, Chairman Thompson

9:10 A.M. Looking Ahead - Lt. Governor Kolstad

10:15 A.M. Coffee Break

10:45 A.M. Subcommittees meet

12:00 NOON Lunch - Forest Farris, Chairman
Holiday Inn
Speaker: Dr. Lindsay Norman, President,
Montana Tech, Butte

1:30 P.M. Business meeting
Frank Thompson, Chairman

1. Report of nominating committee, vote for 5. (Terms of Aasheim, Evertz, Harkness, Reichman and Farris expire.)
2. Report of Executive Director
3. Report of Treasurer
4. Comments, questions, or suggestions for the betterment of RAD.

2:15 P.M. Subcommittees reconvene in rooms as assigned. Coffee available at poolside at discretion of subcommittee chairmen.

5:00 P.M.	Subcommittees adjourn
6:00 P.M.	Social Hour
7:15 P.M.	Awards Banquet, M.C. Torlief Aasheim Speaker - Carl McIntosh

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1988

8:00 A.M.	Executive Committee Breakfast
8:40 A.M.	Subcommittee Reports, Bernard Harkness, Chairman
8:50 A.M.	Forestry - Howard McDowell, Chairman
9:30 A.M.	Land and Water - Ole Ueland, Chairman
10:00 A.M.	Livestock and Range Willie Milliron, Chairman
10:20 A.M.	Coffee Break
10:35 A.M.	Reports Continue - Bob Evertz, Chairman
10:40 A.M.	Weeds - Wayne Pearson, Chairman
11:10 A.M.	Recreation & Wildlife Jim Richard, Chairman
11:45 A.M.	Lunch - Chairman Mike Reichman Speaker - Donald Clark, Director International Education, MSU
1:15 P.M.	Subcommittee Reports continue Terry Murphy, Chairman
1:20 P.M.	Ag Policy Subcommittee Gene Quenemoen, Chairman
1:50 P.M.	Leadership Subcommittee
2:20 P.M.	Safety and Chemicals Roy Linn, Chairman
2:50 P.M.	Coffee Break
3:15 P.M.	Executive Committee Meets Election of Officers Evaluation of meeting

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AS OF MARCH 1, 1989

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Note - Only those who have paid dues are eligible to vote at the annual meeting and/or special meetings which may be called of the entire membership.

RAD SUBCOMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Safety and Chemicals - Roy Linn, Chairman

Forestry - Howard McDowell, Chairman

Livestock and Range - Willie Milliron, Chairman

Recreation and Wildlife - Jim Richard, Chairman

Land and Water Resource - Ole Ueland, Chairman

Weeds - Wayne Pearson, Chairman

Agricultural Policy - Gene Quenemoen & Roy Hoffman, Co-chairmen

Leadership - Jim Bermes, Chairman

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS ASSIGNED TO RAD SUBCOMMITTEES
FOR 1989

Safety and Chemicals	Don Ochsner Mike Reichman
Forestry	Forest Farris Bob LeProwse
Livestock and Range	Bob Evertz
Recreation and Wildlife	Frank Thompson
Land and Water	Terry Murphy
Weeds	LeRoy Luft Frank Daniels
Agricultural Policy	Bernard Harkness
Leadership	Torlief Aasheim

BY-LAWS

Montana Rural Areas Development Committee
Officially Approved, February 14, 1962
and Amended February 21, 1968; February 10, 1972;
December 13, 1974; December 10, 1975; December 1, 1977
December 2, 1983, and November 29, 1984

ARTICLE I - NAME

- Sec. 1. The name of this Committee shall be the Montana Rural Areas Development Committee.

ARTICLE II - OBJECTIVE

- Sec. 1. The chief objective of the Montana RAD Committee is to help develop the human and natural resources of the rural areas of the State to their fullest potential by developing processes among the people for continually solving their problems.

The accomplishment of this objective depends primarily upon the development of leadership, initiative and responsibility among the people of an area for:

- (a) Expansion of their resources, both agricultural and non-agricultural;
- (b) Increased efficiency through use of technology, mechanization and automation;
- (c) Establishment of new and enlargement of existing businesses and industries;
- (d) Training and retraining of youth and adults;
- (e) Reducing of unemployment and under-employment;
- (f) Increased income and improved standards of living.

ARTICLE III - DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Sec. 1. The primary functions of this Committee are to establish policies, providing incentives for rural areas development and giving statewide administration and direction to county and area RAD Committees.
- Sec. 2. Specific functions of the Committee include such activities as:
- (a) Define the geographical boundaries for county and area RAD activities with help of local people;

- (b) Consulting with government and other agencies on all phases of state and local area responsibilities for the successful operation of the RAD program;
- (c) Review and make recommendations for improvement of area RAD and area redevelopment program and plans;
- (d) Establish and maintain appropriate liaison with state economic development agencies and groups, including ARA, with respect to the RAD program;
- (e) Create among the people an awareness of the value and accomplishments of RAD;
- (f) Evaluation of its own operation and area program effectiveness.

ARTICLE IV - MEMBERSHIP

Sec. 1. The State RAD Committee shall be composed of representatives from different areas of the state, economic and other segments of the society, including agriculture, business, industry, labor, church, schools, civic groups, state public agencies and organizations, and the Director of the Cooperative Extension Service.

Sec. 2. All vacancies shall be filled and new appointments made by the Executive Committee.

(THE FOLLOWING SEC. 3. IS AN AMENDMENT VOTED UPON AND APPROVED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STATE RAD COMMITTEE, DECEMBER 10-11, 1975, IN BOZEMAN.)

Sec. 3.* The Annual Dues for membership of the Montana State RAD Committee shall be \$10.00. The payment of such dues shall entitle the member to receive all minutes, notices of meetings, and proceedings of the State RAD Committee, and shall entitle the member to vote at all meetings of the State Committee, and shall entitle the member to be considered for membership on the Executive Committee.

Life Membership Dues shall be \$50.00 and shall entitle the individual to all rights and privileges of individuals described under Annual Membership Dues.

* Changed from \$5.00 to \$10.00 by action taken at the Annual Meeting held in Bozeman, Montana on November 29, 1984.

Any member wishing to give special support to the State RAD Committee may do so by making a payment of \$100.00

which shall entitle him to Life Membership and a certificate identifying him as a Sustaining Member.

Organizations, agencies, business enterprises or groups of any kind wishing to support the RAD activities may do so and be identified as Associate Members by payment of a minimum of annual \$25.00 dues. This entitles such members to all rights of other members except the right to vote. A certificate identifying the donor as an Associate Member will be issued.

(THE FOLLOWING ITEM IS AN AMENDMENT VOTED UPON AND APPROVED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN BOZEMAN, MONTANA DECEMBER 2, 1983.)

- Sec. 4. Any individual having served five consecutive terms on the Executive Committee shall be provided life membership.

ARTICLE V - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- Sec. 1. At the organization meeting, the Montana RAD Committee shall elect an Executive Committee of ten members, plus a nonvoting Executive Secretary, five of whom shall be elected for one year and five for two years. All members of the Executive Committee shall continue in office until successors have been duly elected and qualified.

(CHANGES FROM EIGHT TO TEN MEMBERS BY AMENDMENT AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN SIDNEY, MONTANA ON FEBRUARY 10, 1972.)

"In addition to the ten elected members, the Director of the Montana Cooperative Extension Service shall serve as a member of the Executive Committee with all the rights and privileges given the other members."

(THE DIRECTOR OF THE MONTANA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE WAS ADDED AS A MEMBER OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BY ACTION TAKEN AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN BILLINGS ON DECEMBER 12, 1977.)

- Sec. 2. The Executive Committee will select one of its members to serve as its chairman and chairman of the Montana RAD Committee. It will also select one of its members to serve as a vice-chairman who will act in the absence of the chairman.
- Sec. 3. The Executive Secretary, who will serve as secretary of the RAD Executive Committee and the Montana RAD Committee, will be employed by the Montana Cooperative Extension Service.

Sec 4. Five members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum for transacting official business.

(CHANGED FROM FOUR TO FIVE BY AMENDMENT AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN SIDNEY, MONTANA ON FEBRUARY 10, 1972.)

Sec. 5. When a vacancy occurs in the Executive Committee by reason of death or resignation, the Executive Committee shall fill the unexpired term.

Sec. 6. The Executive Committee shall have the power to appoint such subcommittees as are deemed necessary.

Sec. 7. The Executive Committee shall assume the responsibility for implementing the work and conducting the business of the RAD Committee.

Sec. 8. All activities of the Executive Committee, especially those pertaining to policy, shall be reported periodically in the entire membership of the Montana RAD Committee.

(THE FOLLOWING TWO ITEMS ARE AMENDMENTS VOTED UPON AND APPROVED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STATE RAD COMMITTEE, FEBRUARY 20 & 21, 1968, IN BOZEMAN.)

Sec. 9. Each member of the RAD Executive Committee shall name an alternate to represent him or her at meetings which he or she cannot attend. This alternate shall be named on a permanent basis and may attend meetings which the regular member attends, but may vote only when the regular member is absent.

Sec. 10. If an elected position of the RAD Executive Committee is not represented by the elected member or designated alternate in three consecutive meetings, the position shall be declared vacant.

(SECTION 10 REWORDED FOR CLARIFICATION AND APPROVED AT THE ANNUAL RAD MEETING HELD IN BILLINGS, MONTANA ON DECEMBER 1 & 2, 1977.)

ARTICLE VI - ELECTIONS

Sec. 1. The Annual Meeting, at which time the vacancies in the RAD Executive Committee shall be filled, will be held within the first two weeks of December at a place designated by the Executive Committee.

(CHANGED FROM THE SECOND WEDNESDAY IN FEBRUARY AT A PLACE DESIGNATED BY THE CHAIRMAN TO WITHIN THE FIRST TWO WEEKS OF DECEMBER AT A PLACE DESIGNATED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BY AMENDMENT AT THE ANNUAL MEETING IN MILES CITY, MONTANA ON DECEMBER 13, 1974.)

- Sec. 2. The Executive Committee shall appoint annually three persons from among the membership of the Montana RAD Committee to serve as a committee to nominate candidates for membership and officers of the Executive Committee, and to conduct the election to be held at the annual meeting.
- Sec. 3. Additional nominations for the Executive Committee may be made from the floor by any member of the RAD Committee before the election is held.
- Sec. 4. Election should be by ballot.

ARTICLE VII - MEETINGS

- Sec. 1. The Montana RAD Committee shall meet at least once a year and at other times at the discretion of the Executive Committee. The announcement of the meetings together with a statement of the purpose of the meeting shall be mailed to each member at least seven days prior to the meeting.
- Sec. 2. Those personally present at a duly called meeting of the Montana RAD Committee shall constitute a quorum.

ARTICLE VIII - CHANGES IN BY-LAWS

- Sec. 1. The Executive Committee or any member of the Montana RAD Committee may recommend additions or amendments to the by-laws.
- Sec. 2. Additions or amendments to the by-laws shall become effective immediately upon approval of a majority of the State RAD Committee members present at any scheduled meeting.
- Sec. 3. Proposed additions and amendments to these by-laws shall be submitted to the members at least fourteen days prior to the meeting at which action on the additions and amendments is to be taken.

(THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE IX, SEC. 1. WAS APPROVED AT THE ANNUAL MEETING HELD IN BILLINGS, MONTANA ON DECEMBER 1 & 2, 1977.)

ARTICLE IX - ANNUAL REPORT

- Sec. 1. The chairman, with the aid of the secretary, shall be responsible for the preparation of an annual report covering activities and actions taken during the year. This report shall be prepared and distributed prior to March 1st of the following year and shall include an updated listing of members and subcommittees.

FORESTRY SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to Forestry (which includes farm forestry shelterbelts, windbreaks, sound barriers and wildlife plantings) for the purpose of:

1. Serving in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in forestry for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying and documenting forestry-related problems and opportunities,
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Developing a plan for implementation of a program deemed appropriate through research, education, legislation or other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State RAD Committee based on these findings.

(Note: This subcommittee also serves as the Montana Woodland Council.)

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Forrest Farris
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LAND & WATER RESOURCE SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE;

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to water, land and soils (which includes fertilizers, tillage, drainage, saline seep, land use and all phases of soil and water management for the purpose of:

1. Service in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in soil and water management for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying and documenting soil and water related problems and opportunities,
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Develop a plan for implementation of a program deemed appropriate through research, education, legislation or other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State RAD Committee based on these findings.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REP:

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LIVESTOCK AND RANGE SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE:

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to range management and livestock production and marketing (which includes cattle and sheep) for the purpose of:

1. Serving in coordinating roles by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in livestock and range for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying and documenting livestock and range related problems and opportunities,
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Developing a plan for implementing a program deemed appropriate through research, education, legislation or other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State RAD Committee based on these findings.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPS:

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RECREATION AND WILDLIFE SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE:

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to recreation and wildlife for the purpose of:

1. Serving in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups or organizations which have an interest in wildlife management, farmer-rancher relationships and recreational developments in Montana for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying problems and opportunities,
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Developing a plan for implementation of a program deemed appropriate through research, education, legislation and other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State R.A.D. Committee based on these findings.

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REP:
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Wolf Creek, MT 59648

SAFETY AND CHEMICALS SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE:

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to chemicals and farm safety for the purpose of:

1. Serving in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in chemicals and farm safety for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying and documenting chemical and farm safety related problems and opportunities,
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Developing a plan for implementation of a program deemed appropriate through research, education, legislation or other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State RAD Committee based on these findings.

MEMBERS:

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REP.

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WEEDS SUBCOMMITTEE

PURPOSE:

This subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to weed control for the purpose of:

1. Serving in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in weeds, and weed control for the purpose of:
 - a) Identifying and documenting problems and opportunities related to weeds and weed control,
 - b) Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need and documenting their findings,
 - c) Developing a plan for implementation of a program deemed appropriate through research, education, legislation or other action.
2. Make recommendations to the State RAD Committee based on these findings.

MEMBERS:

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Capitol Station
Helena, MT 59620

Barbra Mullin, Sec.
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Robert Nowierski
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Reeves Petroff
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Bill Reilly
Stanford, MT 59479

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LeRoy Luft
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Alma Plantenberg
Plant & Soil Science Dept.
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Jim Toth
MABA
Star Rt., Box 1500
Clinton, MT 59825

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Frank Daniels
Box 168
Gerard Route
Sidney, MT 59270

LeRoy Luft
Linfield Hall
Montana State University
Bozeman, MT 59717

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE PURPOSE

This subcommittee shall focus attention on matters pertaining to leadership development.

To serve in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups or organizations which have an interest in leadership development for the purpose of:

- A. Identifying problems and opportunities
- B. Obtaining a consensus as to priority of need
- C. Develop a plan for implementation of educational materials, workshops and other actions.

To make recommendations to the state RAD Committee regarding appropriate action.

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Denton, MT 59430

Polly Walker
East Shore Route
Polson, MT 59860

Lorri Williams
2709 Humble
Missoula, MT 59801

AGRICULTURAL POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE

The purpose of the Agricultural Policy Subcommittee shall focus its attention on matters pertaining to local, state and federal agricultural policies for the purpose of:

1. Service in a coordinating role by bringing together agencies, groups and organizations which have an interest in governmental policies related to agricultural production and marketing including international trade. Through seminars and discussion meetings the subcommittee will:
 - A. Identify problems and opportunities
 - B. Obtain consensus on priorities and needs.
 - C. Develop plans for promoting and/or implementing research, education and political action programs.
2. Making recommendations to the state RAD Committee for approval of and/or action on subcommittee proposals.

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MT Dpt of Ag.	SCS
FmHA	USDA Food Ag Council

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Regional Forester
Fish, Wildlife & Parks

MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

R.A.D. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

February 22 and 23, 1988

GranTree Inn, Bozeman, MT

Wolf Creek, Montana 59648
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C Rust, Exec. Sec.
Extension Service
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59717
(406) 991-3511

Attendance

Torlief Aasheim
Frank Thompson
Roy Linn
Don Ochsner
Bernard Harkness
Gene Hawkes
Terry Murphy
James Bermes
Bob Evertz
Gene Quenemoen
LeRoy Luft

Tom Robinson
Jerry Christison
Judy Mathre
Kim Enkerud
Ole Ueland
Sam Hofman
Ray Ditterline
Myles Watts
Forest Farris
Bob LeProwse
Connie N. Townsend

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Frank Thompson at 7:15 p.m. The acting secretary, Roy Linn, reviewed the minutes of the Annual Meeting and the minutes were approved as read. Torlief Aasheim has reviewed the correspondence for the previous period indicating that he had sent letters to Governor Ted Schwinden, Ian Davidson and Alen Baquet thanking them for speaking at the Annual Meeting. A letter was also sent to Roy Bejorneson indicating that the R.A.D. Executive Committee proposes a zero tolerance of noxious weeds being sold in any certified seed in Montana. Another letter was sent to Celeste Lacy, State Dept. of Agriculture. A letter was received from Keith Kelly, Director of State Department of Agriculture. His letter provided information on the Ag Marketing Bulletin Board. This is an electronic bulletin board service and can be assessed for information by the use of your computer. Chairman Frank Thompson and his wife were asked to represent the R.A.D. Executive Committee at the Young Farmers Forum held on February 3 through 6, 1988. Connie Townsend attended the Governor's Ad Hoc committee on Agriculture and reported that the Ag Coalition did not want the Department of Livestock to be consolidated with the State Department of Agriculture.

Dr. LeRoy Luft reported that the extension forester, Steve Larson was leaving his position to take a position in Minnesota and that there is a possibility of Celeste Lacy leaving the State Department of Agriculture. Treasurer Torlief Aasheim presented the financial report and indicated that R.A.D. now has \$389.51 in the bank account. 70 persons have paid annual dues, one as an associate

member and then we have 15 life members. Torlief indicated that he was interested in applying for a grant from the Kellogg Organization to help support R.A.D. He had talked to Gary King of Kellogg about this possibility. Torlief asked for comments from the Executive Committee on how much he should ask for and how it should be disseminated. A discussion prevailed. It was moved by Terry Murphy and seconded by Bob LeProwse to apply for at least \$50,000 to increase involvement of R.A.D. for the outreach in Montana. Motion passed. Plans will be to put information together to try for a grant of this amount to help support the State R.A.D. programs.

During the Annual Meeting Dr. James Welsh, Dean of the College of Agriculture at Montana State University made a detailed presentation regarding a request for federal funds to complete the Plant Growth Center at MSU. It was suggested that a letter be sent to Senator Melcher by the chairman of the Montana Rural Area Development Committee to encourage him to give serious consideration of the proposal of funding that would help complete the bioscience research laboratory as a part of the new Plant Growth Center at Montana State University. This was unanimously approved by the committee.

Other discussions prevailed. All alternates have been named for the Executive Committee members. Letterhead of new stationery has been printed. New lapel pins have been ordered. The letters to the Board of Regents and others were prepared and mailed at requests of the subcommittees and others. The publication titled "The Story of the Montana Rural Areas Development Committee" has had some changes made in the front and back pages and is ready for printing.

The workmen's compensation program was discussed at some length and it was decided that an Executive R.A.D. Committee would bring someone in to thoroughly discuss the operation of the workmen's compensation before state R.A.D. could make intelligent decisions on how they could evaluate the workmen's comp program.

The subcommittees were discussed and it was decided to combine safety and chemical subcommittee. Much of the chemicals being applied today require safety for application and handling. Other subcommittees were discussed such as business, education, natural resources, and leadership principles. Discussion prevailed, but no final decision was derived for having subcommittees in these areas. It was felt very strongly that there is a need for a leadership subcommittee, but there was also some concern that if the R.A.D. Executive Committee established a subcommittee in leadership there would be duplication of effort by those of M.L.D.A. Association or leadership that may come from other organizations. However, this will receive further discussion at a later date. Torlief asked,

"Where shall R.A.D. place it's emphasis for the year 1988?" Some of the areas that need further discussion are chemicals, weeds, workmen's compensation program and leadership. It was also felt that the R.A.D. Executive Committee hear from several agencies throughout the state about their relationship of the banking to Montana industry and their lending policies. The Ag Executive Committee should also prepare themselves this next year for innovative Ag policy programs and try to develop programs in this area. Innovative programs of this kind may change ideas and reduce such things as sodbusting and other changes that have taken place in the ag industry over the past years. The 1988 annual state R.A.D. meeting will be held in Bozeman December 5,6,7, 1988 at the Holiday Inn. It was moved that the meeting adjourn and the meeting adjourned at 9:59.

Roy Linn
Acting Secretary

February 23, 1988

Chairman Frank Thompson opened the meeting at 9:15 a.m. Guests were introduced.

Myles Watts, Head, Department of Agricultural Economics at MSU presented an illustrated lecture on the implication of changes in exchange rate for the dollar. After an explanation of trade and exchange rates he expanded on the following issues:

- (1) Predictions are for expansion of exports of agricultural products - 20 to 40 percent.
- (2) There is a strong inverse relationship between exchange rates and agricultural exports.
- (3) Agricultural export responses to exchange rate changes lags more than in previous years.
- (4) U.S. wheat stocks have declined since the peak reached in 1986. Expectations are that stocks will continue to decline this year.

Jerry Christison, Small Business Administration, Helena presented information on plans for an economic development conference. He began by emphasizing the need for better management of small businesses.

What is needed:

1. Technical management training
2. Improvement of marketing skills
3. Capital

SBA has moved out of role of providing risk capital. Now emphasis is on making banks stable.

Christison stated that the success record for SBA supported small businesses in Montana is much better than the National average (87.9 percent successful).

SBA is supporting a Small Business Development Company. One function of this company is to provide a data bank for small business development in Montana.

Christison called on Dr. LeRoy Luft to report on Rural Enterprise Teams and plans for a facilitating institute for rural development and training. He explained how resources at MSU could be coordinated with state and federal agencies to focus on needs of small businesses for data, feasibility studies, leadership training, economic development assistance and technology training.

Christison explained the plans for the Economic Development Conference in Bozeman June 21 & 22 to educate business and community leaders on the availability of coordinated services to small businesses. Christison would like to have R.A.D. co-sponsor the event. Aasheim moved that R.A.D. co-sponsor this educational conference. Hawkes seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

The Renewable Resources Act was discussed by Dr. Luft. He said CES received approximately \$50,000 from this source the past year and will continue to use these funds to support an Extension Forester position.

Ole Ueland reported on recommendations of the Land and Water Committee. Mr. Ueland stated the case for livestock farming and sustainable agriculture.

Dr. Luft commented that Congress has made \$850 million available to the western states to work on systems of low input agriculture. These funds are available on a competitive basis.

Mr. Ueland recommended that the R.A.D. Executive Committee should support research in sustainable agriculture.

Concern was expressed about the problem of ground water pollution from using agricultural chemicals. Ochsner urged MSU, through extension and research, to investigate the technology and economics of sustainable agriculture by survey and study of Montana farmers and ranchers who have engaged in such practices.

It was agreed that a multi-discipline presentation should be arranged on this subject for the next meeting of the Executive Committee.

Ray Ditterline reported on status of MSU varietal recommendations. He indicated that the Experiment Station plans to continue making annual recommendations regardless of the risk of legal actions. The Experiment Station has criteria for minimum test standards before recommending a variety.

Cherry
I have
seen
this
→ Jim Bermes reviewed a problem farmers are now facing regarding cropping restrictions imposed by USDA on so-called "highly erodible" lands. He indicated the USDA restrictions are often unrealistic and causing farmers to incur economic losses. There were many comments about irregularities in farm plans and standards imposed by USDA agencies.

Aasheim moved, seconded by Ochsner that we recommend to Dean Welsh that there is a need for more farm management and other information needed to facilitate the 1985 Farm Program, particularly as it pertains to highly erodible land. Educational programs should be aimed at all levels of local government farm program managers, farmers and ranchers. Motion

carried.

Ochsner moved, seconded by Hawkes, that a letter explaining the problems and hardships resulting from the CRP and highly erodible land issue in the 1985 Farm Program, should be sent to the Secretary of Agriculture with copies to Montana's congressmen, senators, governor, Dean of Agriculture, farm program managers, Secretary of the Interior and President of the U.S.A. The letter should urge maximum responsibility for local committees and program management units. The motion carried.

Aasheim called attention to the Landowner-Sportsman Conference at Lewistown, February 27-28. This conference was endorsed by R.A.D. at its annual meeting.

Forest Farris announced a Department of Highways hearing in Helena, March 2 to review road and railroad conditions in Montana. The policies regarding the highway trust fund will also be addressed at this hearing.

Farris also reported that federal taxes on diesel fuel will be deducted at the time of purchase beginning on April 1. Farmers will have an opportunity to claim a refund for fuel used on the farm.

Evertz moved, Ochsner seconded that a letter should be sent to the Montana Congressmen and senators in opposition to the process of taxing diesel fuel for farm use at the time of purchase. Motion carried.

Chairman Thompson introduced Judy Mathre, Local Government Center, Department of Political Science, MSU, who explained the grant from the Kellogg Foundation for outreach to strengthen self governing capacities of rural local government units throughout Montana. (See attachment).

Chairman Thompson introduced Tom Robinson, Director of Student Affairs at MSU. Mr. Robinson reported on the status of admission standards at MSU. The Board of Regents adopted a mandate for admission standards and appointed a task force to establish criteria and rules. The task force met but could not arrive at a consensus. The chairperson of the task force presented a report under only the chairperson's signature. The Board of Regents will hold hearings April 18 and 19 before making a final decision on admission standards.

Farris moved that the next meeting should be held May 10 and 11. The motion, seconded by LeProwse, carried.

LeProwse moved, Ochsner seconded that the next meeting be held at Fairmont Hot Springs. The motion carried.

Ochsner moved, LeProwse seconded that the meeting adjourn. Motion carried, at 4:15 p.m.

Gene Quenemoen
Acting Secretary

Attachments:

1. Kellogg Grant - Executive Summary, Dept. of Political Science - MSU
2. Letter to Congressional Delegation supporting Bioscience Research Lab

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This proposal to the W. K. Kellogg Foundation seeks three year Foundation funding in the amount of \$406,000.00 in support of a new outreach initiative of Montana State University, a Land Grant Institution, to strengthen the self governing capacities of rural local government units throughout Montana. To accomplish this overall objective, we are seeking funding to:

1. Provide training and direct technical assistance to rural local government officials throughout the State of Montana; and to

2. Institutionalize an MSU based Local Government Center to assist in the statewide planning, coordination and delivery of training and direct assistance to the 128 units of municipal government and 56 units of county government in this rural, commodity exporting and sparsely populated state.

Key program elements described in this proposal include:

1. Formation of a Local Government Interagency Advisory Council to conduct annual, statewide training needs assessment and to coordinate the delivery of training programs to units of local government.

2. Formation of county level Local Government Education Advisory Committees under the leadership of County Extension Agents.

3. Conduct annual, statewide orientation workshops to familiarize newly elected, local government officials with their responsibilities.

4. Conduct annual, regional workshops to enhance the management skills of elected officials in the immense rural areas of Montana.

5. Conduct annual budget and goal setting retreats for the elected officials of the seven largest cities in Montana.

6. Develop, publish and introduce a comprehensive and accredited Municipal Officials Correspondence Course to include video tape modules suitable for small group viewing and learning.

7. Institutionalize and accredit certification training for Montana Municipal Clerks and Finance Officers.

8. Develop a local government internship program for all units of the Montana University System.

9. Publish a Montana Municipal Officials Handbook.

This proposal has been endorsed by:

- The President of Montana State University
- The Lieutenant Governor
- The Montana League of Cities and Towns
- The Montana Association of Counties
- The Montana Association of Municipal Clerks and Finance Officers

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

February 17, 1988

Mr. Barnard Harkness
Chairman of the Montana Rural
Areas Development Committee
Dell, Montana 59724

Dear Barnard:

Thank you for your previous correspondence. I am enclosing the letter I received in response to my inquiry into the matter you brought to my attention.

I hope that you find this information helpful. Please let me know if I can be of assistance in the future.

With best personal regards, I am

Sincerely,



Enclosure



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

-2

OFFICE OF
PESTICIDES AND TOXIC SUBSTANCES

Honorable Max Baucus
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Baucus:

Thank you for your letter of December 15, 1987, on behalf of your constituent Mr. Bernard Harkness, Chairman of the Montana Rural Areas Development Committee, regarding the problem of controlling Columbia ground squirrels in certain areas of Montana.

As you may know, under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) registers pesticides on the basis of scientific data adequate to demonstrate that their use will not result in unreasonable adverse effects on people or the environment. In addition, under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act (FFDCA), if a pesticide is to be used in a manner such that residues may be left in or on food or animal feed, EPA must establish tolerances, or maximum levels of residue which may legally remain in or on food or feed. This is to ensure that food does not bear residues which may be injurious to public health. EPA's data requirements are of primary importance to the program, since without sufficient data, it is impossible for the Agency to evaluate the safety of the use and make necessary risk/benefit determinations to make a finding of not unreasonable adverse effects.

However, many pesticides were first registered many years ago when data requirements were much less comprehensive than today's standards. Because scientific knowledge is constantly changing, the data available to the Agency must be periodically updated to conform to current scientific standards. Under the authority of FIFRA section (3)(c)(2)(B), the Agency calls in additional data from registrants to support existing registrations. Compound 1080 (sodium fluoroacetate) is one of those chemicals which was registered long ago on the basis of data which do not conform to today's standards. Accordingly, EPA has called in additional data, including data necessary to comply with the tolerance requirements of FFDCA.


EPA met with the state government mixers, formulators and registrants of strychnine and 1080 vertebrate pesticides on October 8 and 9, 1987, to discuss data gaps for both pesticides. As a result of those discussions, on December 17, 1987, the Agency sent a letter to all registrants of strychnine and 1080 to notify them of the outcome of the October meeting. This letter informed the registrants that the Agency has extended the due dates for submission of data for both strychnine and 1080 because of the complexity and the sequential nature of many of the data requirements. These extensions range in time from 6 to 50 months. One complication is that many of the test subjects can only be tested during certain times of the year. For example, ground squirrels, which are of major concern to Mr. Harkness, should only be tested with grain baits during the short period of time (August to September) when they are effective in a real use situation. Therefore, if the Agency completes its review of laboratory data in August, it could be a whole year before field testing could commence.

Conditions were also set in the December 17, 1987 letter stating how the registrant must obtain the extension of deadlines for data submission. Within 30 days of receipt of the letter, the registrant must submit: a commitment to fulfill data requirements, legible draft labels that have been revised with the use sites clearly defined and a confidential statement of formula. Failure to meet the 30 day deadline may result in administrative action by the Agency to prohibit further sale and distribution of the products until all data requirements are satisfied. All commitments to submit data should be in by the end of January 1988. For further information on the status of the data submissions, Mr. Harkness may contact Mr. Steve Palmeteer, Registration Division (TS-767C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C., 20460 or he may be reached at (703) 557-4408.

It is important to note that the case of Montana is unique, in that a tolerance must be set for the uses Montana is requesting. Mr. Gingerly of the Montana Department of Agriculture (DOA) attended the October meeting and indicated that his agency would assist with the generation of data. Thus, your constituent may also want to contact Mr. Gingerly at (406) 444-7944 to inquire about the status of the data generation.

I hope this information is helpful. If I may be of further assistance, please let me know.

Sincerely yours,


John A. Moore
Assistant Administrator
for Pesticides
and Toxic Substances

cc: Mr. Gingerly, Montana
Department of Agriculture

MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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Wolf Creek, MT 59648
February 23, 1988

TO: Senator John Melcher
Senator Max Baucus
Congressman Pat Williams
Congressman Ron Marlenee

FROM: Frank Thompson, Chairman
Montana Rural Areas Development Comm.

RE: Bioscience Research Laboratory
Montana State University

Frank C. Thompson

At the annual meeting of the Montana Rural Areas Development Committee, Dr. James Welsh, who is Dean of the College of Agriculture at Montana State University, made a detailed presentation regarding a request for federal funds to complete the Plant Growth Center at MSU. A brief of this proposal is attached.

This is to request your serious consideration of this proposal which, if funded, would complete a Bioscience Research Laboratory as a part of the new Plant Growth Center at MSU. Such an addition to the present facility would reduce the risk of losing extremely valuable material and add a very important collaborative component.

The laboratory is vital in finalizing the research capabilities in biotechnology including biocontrol of agriculture pests. More specifically, the facility would complete the plant diseases isolation and quarantine component of the Plant Growth Center which will enable MSU and ARS scientists to study various disease organisms that will contribute to biological control of weeds.

The Montana Rural Areas Development Committee has long recognized perennial noxious weeds as one of the major economic problems in the state. We have supported research and Cooperative Extension activities in all phases of weed control. It has become apparent in recent years that biological control offers a valuable and economic tool in the arsenal of weapons to combat weeds.

This facility, which is strongly supported by USDA-ARS, represents the federal contribution to an already significant investment by the State of Montana. It will enhance Montana's role as a cooperator in state, regional, and national efforts directed toward the resolution of this most serious economic problem. Please keep in mind that at the present time there is only one comparable facility in the country, that being located at Fort Diedrich, Maryland.

If we can provide you with any further information or be of additional assistance in any way, please don't hesitate to call on us.

cc: James Welsh, Dean of Agriculture, MSU
William Tietz, President, MSU
Ted Schwinden, Governor of Montana
Keith Kelly, Director, State Dept. of Agriculture
Wayne Pearson, Chairman, RAD Weed Subcommittee

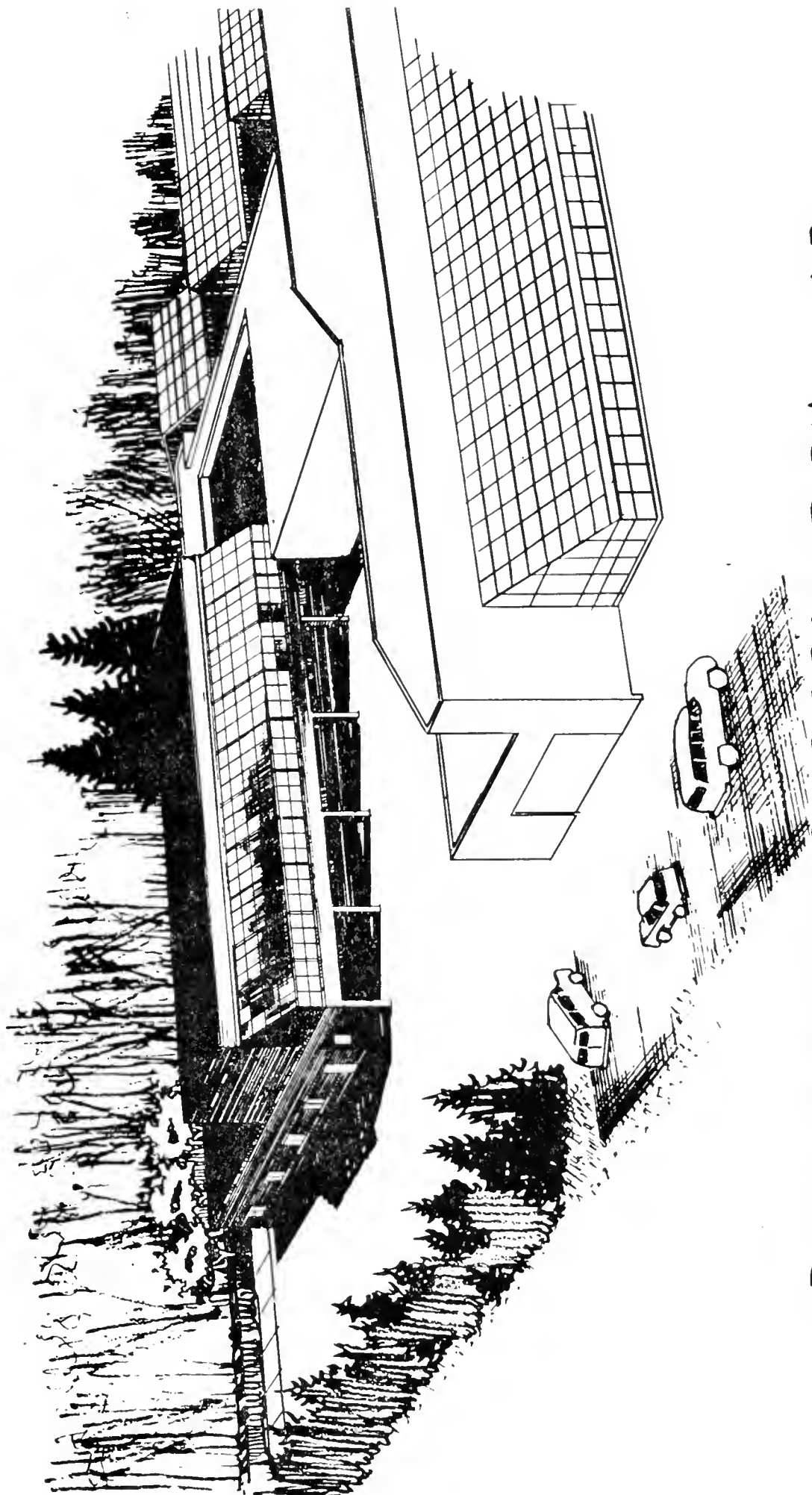
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
BIO SCIENCE RESEARCH LABORATORY

Montana State University has completed a \$5.3 million Plant Growth Center designed to provide state-of-the-art capacity in environmental control for biological research and teaching (see attached). The center is used by both state and federal programs. However, a complimentary laboratory is necessary to finalize the research capability in biotechnology including biocontrol of agricultural pests.

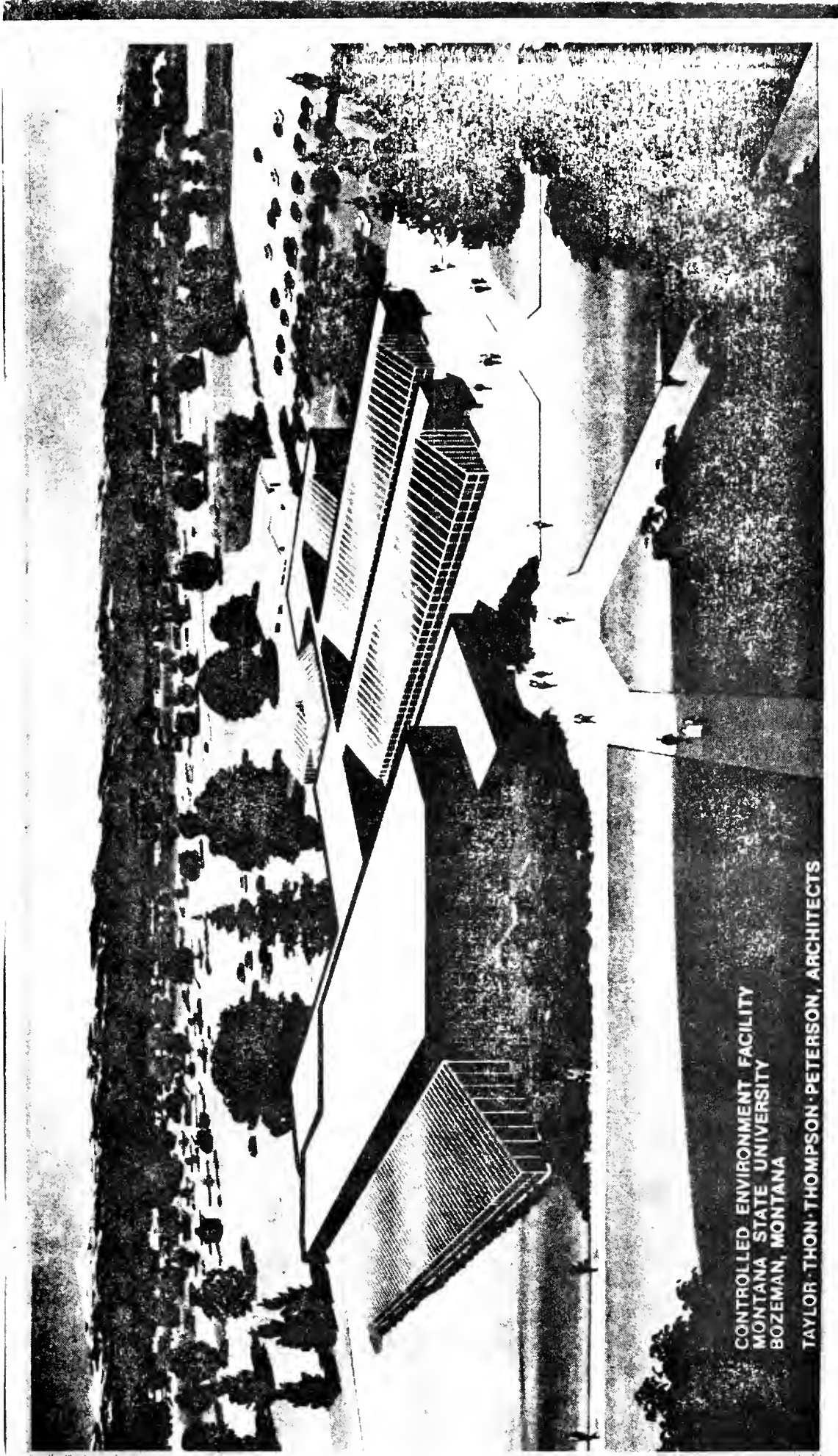
The proposed 25,000 sq. ft. structure (see attached) will contain facilities required for advanced biological and whole organism research relating to plants, soils, insects and diseases. The specific characteristics are as follows:

- A. An isolation greenhouse complex of high-level containment to allow research on plant diseases for biological control. It will consist of ten individual glasshouses and support areas. Each glasshouse will have its own laboratory/-preparation area.
- B. General-purpose wet laboratories designed to accommodate biotechnology-supported research.
- C. Several smaller laboratories housing equipment to support the general purpose laboratories. They will include capabilities in tissue culture, disease studies, plant disease organism containment, etc.
- D. Special purpose laboratories for:
 - 1. Plant virology
 - 2. Plant inoculation
 - 3. Sterile transfer
 - 4. Plant fumigation
- E. Sufficient offices to house support staff and graduate students.

<u>Project total cost:</u>	\$8 million
<u>Proposed funding source:</u>	Federal funds through USDA Cooperative States Research Service Special Grant.
<u>Operational Funds</u>	To be provided by Montana Legislature.
<u>Staffing:</u>	Jointly by Montana State University and USDA/ARS.
<u>Projected time frame:</u>	Anticipated bid date of January 1, 1989



BIO SCIENCE RESEARCH LAB



CONTROLLED ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
BOZEMAN, MONTANA

TAYLOR THON THOMPSON PETERSON, ARCHITECTS

MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Frank Thompson, Chairman
Wolf Creek, Montana 59648
(406) 235-4396

DATE: April 11, 1988

Bernard Harkness, Vice Chairman
Dell, Montana 59724
(406) 276-3336

TO: Richard E. Lyng, Secretary of Agriculture

FROM:

Frank Thompson, Chairman
Montana State Rural Agriculture
Development Committee

Frank C. Thompson

Torlief S. Aasheim, Treasurer
517 West Koch
Bozeman, Montana 59715
(406) 587-7256

RE: USDA Conservation Reserve Program

Don Ochsner
Montana Farm Bureau
Broadus Route
Miles City, Montana 59301
(406) 232-2724

At the last Montana State Rural Area

Development Committee meeting there was considerable

Robert LeProwse
Champion Timberlands
Bonner, Montana 59823
(406) 258-5511

discussion relative to the 1985 Farm Program and

specifically the Conservation Reserve Program

administered by the Soil Conservation Service of the

Terry Murphy, President
Montana Farmers Union
Box 2447
Great Falls, Montana 59403
(406) 452-6406

USDA. After considerable discussion it was moved that

we write to you about these concerns.

Connie Townsend
White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645
(406) 547-3453

Concern: That the regulation on erodible lands as

applied to farm conservation plans are not

utilizing the latest technology, have not

been analyzed for their economic impact on

the producer, and there is not adequate

coordination between government agencies

Forrest Farris, President
Montana State Grange
550 Three Mile Drive
Kalispell, Montana 59901
(406) 257-3636

Recommendations:

Mike Reichman
Montana Power Company
1006 West Main
Bozeman, Montana 59715
(406) 586-1331

1. Conservation plans should be analyzed for their economic feasibility.

Leroy Luft, Assoc. Director
Extension Service
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59717
(406) 994-3402

2. Closer coordination between EPA -SCS -
Chemical companies - applicator training
programs to insure that conservation plans
are consistent with other recommendations.

Charles Rust, Exec. Sec.
Extension Service
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59717
(406) 994-3511

3. More authority should be given to local Conservation Districts for establishing guidelines for conservation plans and what is an accepted conservation practice.

The RAD committee is concerned that some of these conservation regulations on erodible lands have not been analyzed for their adverse impact upon the producer. We urge that you take appropriate action to correct our concerns.

CC: Representative Marlene
Representative Williams
Senator Baucus
Senator Melcher
Dean of Agriculture, James Welsh

MAY 2 1988

Silver Bow, Mt. 59750
April 29, 1988

Jim Sims
Hayden Ferguson
Gene McKeever
Pete Fay


Relative to the Rural Area Development (RAD) meeting at Fairmont Hot Springs May 11, I have agreed to be moderator of the panel "alternative farm management practices" on which you agreed to participate.

Following is a resolution presented to the RAD Executive Committee by its Land & Water Subcommittee which has brought about this panel:

Request RAD Executive committee support research in sustainable agriculture to determine the range of annual precipitation in which pulse legume, green manure cropping is economically feasible, determine the amount of organic matter on existing cropland, and development markets for pulse crops. Further that research be made available to farmers and ranchers who desire to practice so called organic or sustainable agriculture or a combination of methods.

Enclosed is an article "The Inheritors" which i will also use as a background to our discussion.

I look forward to a good time with you and RAD at 1:15 pm on the 11th.


Ole M. Ueland, Chairman
RAD Land & Water Subcommittee

cc: Charlie Rust ✓
Frank Thompson
Torlief S. Aasheim

MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Frank Thompson, Chairman
Wolf Creek, Montana 59618 ✓
(406) 235-4396

Bernard Harkness, Vice Chairman
Dell, Montana 59724
(406) 276-3336 *MP*

Torlief S. Aasheim, Treasurer *U.V.*
517 West Koch
Bozeman, Montana 59715
(406) 587-7256

Don Ochsner
Montana Farm Bureau
Broadus Route
Miles City, Montana 59301
(406) 232-2724

Robert LeProwse
Champion Timberlands ✓
Bonner, Montana 59823
(406) 258-5511

Terry Murphy, President
Montana Farmers Union ✓
Box 2447
Coeur d'Alene, Montana 59403
(406) 452-6406

Connie Townsend ✓
White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645
(406) 547-3453

Bob Evertz *MP*
Joliet, Montana 59041
(406) 962-3368

Forrest Farris, President *MP*
Montana State Grange
550 Three Mile Drive
Kalispell, Montana 59901
(406) 257-3636

Mike Reichman *MP*
Montana Power Company
1006 West Main
Bozeman, Montana 59715
(406) 586-1331

Leroy Luft, Assoc. Director
Extension Service
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59717
(406) 994-3402

C. Rust, Exec. Sec.
Extension Service
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59717
(406) 994-3511

R.A.D. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING May 10 and 11, 1988 Fairmont Hot Springs, Anaconda, MT

Attendance

Torlief Aasheim
Frank Thompson
Don Ochsner
James Bermes
Bob Evertz
Gene Quenemoen
LeRoy Luft
Bob LeProwse
Michael O. Reichman
Ralph Mannix
Forest Farris
Connie N. Townsend
Dorothy Aasheim
Ole Ueland
Dick Gooby
Bob Lohmiller
Gene McKeever
Pete Fay
Hayden Ferguson
Jim Sims
Beatrice McCarthy
Bob Robertson
Mary Seecombe

for R. Aasheim
Aasheim
Evertz
Reichman

Frank Thompson called the meeting to order at 8:25 pm and introduced Beatrice McCarthy, member of the Board of Regents, who reported on the status of proposed changes in admission standards for the state supported University System. Ms. McCarthy pointed out that the primary emphasis in the new standard is to encourage students who plan to attend one of the universities to prepare themselves in order to achieve success in their academic programs. It is not intended to keep students from attending the state's universities. She indicated that the Board utilized input from many sources, including citizen comments, in building the current version of new admission standards.

Ms. McCarthy encouraged RAD members to become familiar with Project Excellence which is now being implemented by the State Board of Education and the office of the State Superintendent of Schools. It is also intended to improve the quality of in-coming university students.

8:10 am Wednesday, May 11

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order and requested that Mr. Aasheim review correspondence since the last executive committee meeting.

A letter to Senator Melcher regarding funds to enhance the Plant Growth Center at MSU received a favorable reply from the Senator.

The executive committee sent a letter to the SBA supporting the Economic Development Conference to be held in Bozeman on June 21 & 22. There has been no response or further information available on this proposed conference.

A letter to Dean Welsh and a response from the Dean and from Dr. LeRoy Luft was read regarding farm management and other information needed by farmers to effectively implement the 1985 Farm Program.

The letter to the Secretary of Agriculture and to the Montana congressional delegation was read regarding problems of implementing the provisions of the 1985 Farm Bill particularly related to highly erodible land. A strong letter from Mr. Johnson of the Montana SCS disapproving this action by RAD was also read.

Several letters to and from the Kellogg Foundation were read. It appears that Kellogg will not be able to provide funding requested by RAD.

Mr. Ochsner moved, seconded by Ms. Townsend that the agenda for the current meeting be approved. Motion carried.

Chm. Thompson called for action on the minutes of the last meeting. Dr. Luft asked to correct the last minutes to show that "Congress made \$850 thousand available to the western states to work on systems of low input agriculture." Mr. Farris moved, seconded by Dr. Luft that the minutes stand approved as corrected. The motion carried.

Mr. Ueland announced that Mr. Harkness had designated him to be Mr. Harkness's alternate to replace Mr. Williams who has moved to Idaho. Mr. Thompson reported that he had requested that Willie Milliron serve as Mr. Thompson's alternate.

Mr. Farris reported that his new phone number is 752 8014.

The committee discussed suggestions for the next meeting of the executive committee. Suggestions are as follows:

Panel discussion and status report on the law suit against the Department of State Lands regarding public access to State school lands.

Panel on the pros and cons of purchasing vs. leasing of easements of wildlife habitat under the new Wildlife Habitat Acquisition law passed by the last legislature.

Discussion of the Resource Conservation Act. Ueland's soil conservation sub-committee has an information program related to this later today.

Discussion of a State Weed Control Coordinator. Should the authorized position be filled? What should be the role of the coordinator?

Discussion of the mission of the Land Grant University (MSU). Should off-campus service to people be continued as-is or given more or less emphasis?

The treasurer reported a financial balance of \$81.85 and indicated that this amount would probably be expended on the present meeting of the executive committee. In order to enhance the treasury it was moved by Mr. Reichman, seconded by Mr. Ueland that a charge of \$2.00 should be made for RAD pins. It was explained by Mr. Aasheim that these pins cost \$1.00 each. The motion carried.

Mr. Aasheim asked for ideas for the program at the 1988 annual meeting of RAD. Topics suggested were:

Possibilities of securing a large-scale packing house for Montana to serve the livestock industry.

Status report on the Certified Montana Beef label.

Biological vs. chemical control of weeds.

There was a discussion of the RAD annual report which was distributed by Mr. Aasheim. Some letters and meeting agenda were edited out. It was suggested that the annual report should show who edited it and it should indicate where the files including all correspondence, agenda and other pertinent information are located.

Ms. Townsend reported for the Livestock and Range Committee. She gave a status report on the beef check-off program and said it was expected that the results of the voting which is currently in progress will be announced on May 26. She said it has been determined that the National Beef Board will be able to receive royalties from any research findings financed through the beef check-off program.

Dr. Luft, reporting for the Weed Control Committee, said he would bring a resolution the next meeting of the executive committee regarding cost-sharing for weed control on rangelands.

Mr. Farris reported for the Forestry Committee. He reviewed the invitation from the Forestry Committee to the RAD Executive Committee to meet jointly at the Natural Resources Youth Camp during the week of August 7-12. He said that interviews are now taking place for the position of Extension Forester.

Conservation under The 1985 Food Security Act

Dick Gooby and Bob Lohmiller, SCS State Office, presented a program to explain conservation planning and implementation under the 1985 farm law. They explained the four steps in conservation planning, viz. (1) set objectives, (2) make inventories, (3) offer alternatives and (4) make decisions. They reviewed the process of developing conservation plans with farmers and the treatment of land classed as "highly erodible." They told of the requirement for farmers to implement the conservation plans as a requisite condition for participation in any USDA sponsored programs.

Bob Evertz related his experience with the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) and difficulty of getting approval due to liquidation of a family corporation. His appeal involved county and state ASCS committee, the federal ASCS commissioner and Montana congressional delegates. He urged that SCS and ASCS should be given power to waive rules when appropriate without excessive red tape.

Mr. Bermes also told of his experience with inflexible rules and different interpretations of rules among federal officials. He argued that rules need to be flexible enough to permit management of changing problems. For example control of the Russian Aphid in south central Montana may require new technology that is inconsistent with the present guidelines.

Ralph Mannix, FmHA county committeeman, cautioned that changing name ownership of farmland can also create problems for FmHA borrowers by eliminating their eligibility for loans which carry special interest rates.

Workers' Compensation

Bob Robertson, Administrator for the Montana Division of Workers' Compensation spoke about the operation of the program in Montana. He discussed the options of self insurance (generally practiced by large companies), insuring through private companies and insurance through the State fund. He said that since the Workers' Compensation Court was established by the Legislature in 1975 there has been a steady growth in benefits awarded to injured workers. This has seriously depleted the State fund.

SB 315 passed the last session of Legislature and significantly reformed the Montana Workers' Compensation Law. This is expected to reduce claims by about 20%.

An alternative that many legislators are considering is to replace the case-law system with a Workers' Compensation Board which would consider each case administratively without setting precedence for future similar cases.

Mr. Robertson stated the need for safety programs. He pointed out how private companies have reduced their amount of compensation claims by reducing injuries through safety programs.

Mr. Robertson reviewed a survey just being completed by the Division of Workers' Compensation on insurance rates in other states. It indicates that Montana is near the average or median rather than near the top as is being claimed by some sources.

Alternative Farming Practices

Mr. Ueland introduced Jim Sims, Hayden Ferguson, Gene McKeever and Pete Fay for a panel discussion on Alternative Farming Practices. The panel agreed that agriculture can be "sustainable" if improved management practices are implemented. Mr. McKeever explained a program to improve tilth and fertility to soil on his dryland farm south of Havre. Dr. Fay discussed the use of chemicals in agriculture and, while recognizing there are problems, he discounted the idea of a "catastrophe." Drs. Sims and Ferguson reviewed the history of research in soil tilth/structure and the concern with sustainable agriculture.

National Advisory Council on Rural Development

Chm. Thompson introduced Mary Seecombe, Supervisor, Mile High Soil and Resource Conservation District who told about her work with the National Advisory Council on Rural Development. She said there are 30 members on this committee from throughout the U.S. The work of the committee is divided among four sub-committees, viz. (1) human resources, (2) physical resources, (3) financial resources and (4) local, state and federal coordination.

Ms. Seecombe said Rural Enterprise Teams in each state set goals for their respective state. The approach is predicated on the idea that farmers and ranchers need small towns and small towns need farmers and ranchers.

The preliminary findings of the Advisory Council are attached as an appendix to these minutes.

Other business and announcements:

Ms. Townsend reported on the Governor's Ad-hoc Committee. She said the committee was initially supposed to be an information disseminating group of rural interest groups. In order to address and discuss rural problems the Agricultural Coalition was formed and met the night before the meetings of the Governor's Ad-hoc Committee. The Agricultural Coalition has also met at special meetings in addition to the meetings of the Governor's Committee which meets twice per year. The future of the Governor's Ad-hoc Committee is probably uncertain now until after the next general election.

Chm. Thompson announced that Keith Kelly, Administrator for the Dept. of Agriculture, will have hold meetings on an EIS for grasshopper control May 16, 24 and 25 at Fort Benton, Plentywood, and Billings respectively.

It was reported that Keith Williams has an in-depth record of RAD reports and documents which he will donate to the Executive Committee. It was suggested that the Executive Secretary should contact Mr. Williams and arrange to receive these files.

Bob Evertz spoke in favor of reactivating the Leadership Development Sub-committee. He suggested that MLDA take on this role. Barbara Kirscher, president of MLDA is proposed to head this sub-committee. Dr. Luft moved, seconded by Mr. Aasheim that Mr. Evertz make this proposal to MLDA at its next meeting. The motion carried.

There was a discussion of reactivating the Agricultural Policy Sub-committee. The activities and objectives of such a sub-committee were questioned. Dr. Quenemoen volunteered to look into the matter prior to the July meeting of the Executive Committee and to report back.

Dr. Luft indicated that the Extension Service planned to propose a safety program to be conducted jointly with the Division of Workers' Compensation. He will give a status report at the next meeting.

A letter from James S. Johnson to Chm. Thompson objecting to the letter sent by RAD to the Secretary of Agriculture was discussed. The RAD letter concern the administration of USDA's Conservation Reserve Program. Mr. Aasheim said he would draft a letter to Mr. Johnson clarifying the concerns of RAD members and assuring him that the letter was not intended as criticism of any agency. Mr. Aasheim will present the letter to Mr. Thompson for his signature.

It was agreed the next meeting should be held in Bozeman on July 21 and 22. Committee members are invited to attend a field-day program on forage crops at the Post Agronomy Farm starting with a lunch at noon. The Executive Committee will have a dinner meeting at 6 pm. The meeting will continue on July 22.

The agenda for all Executive Committee meetings should be sent to directors, alternates and sub-committee chairmen.

Mr. Ochsner moved, Dr. Luft seconded that the meeting adjourn. The motion carried at 4:50 pm.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Gene Quenemoen".

Gene Quenemoen
Acting Secretary

ADVISORY COUNCIL'S PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

After three meetings and many hours of intensive study, the National Advisory Council on Rural Development makes the following preliminary suggestions on rural development policy and strategy:

- o The Secretary should establish a Department-wide rural Development agenda and make it a major USDA objective.
- o USDA should lead all Federal agencies in a government-wide program to define rural development needs and goals and identify resources.
- o The Secretary should direct USDA State Food and Agricultural Councils to help State and local governments mobilize leaders in rural communities and successfully develop local rural development initiatives.
- o The Secretary should direct USDA agencies to coordinate their programs with State initiatives. For example, the Extension Service should coordinate its efforts with State education efforts.
- o USDA education and training programs should place greater emphasis on rural development skills such as community leadership, business management, entrepreneur skills, etc.
- o USDA research projects should examine:
 - 1. The relationship between physical infrastructure and job creation.
 - 2. The potential for regional pooling of community resources.
 - 3. The mechanics of rural venture capital formation.
 - 4. The distribution of government resources between rural and urban populations.
- o The Secretary should work with OMB in an effort to change OMB's method of scoring guaranteed loans.
- o Federal rural development programs should provide incentives to encourage capital investment.
- o Rural communities should have the communication infrastructures that will provide community leaders with improved access to information networks and problem-solving methodology. Using today's new technologies and information management systems is essential to economic success in rural America.

- o The Secretary should take a lead role in the Transportation 2020 process, a series of hearings on future transportation needs for the nation.
- o The Secretary should continue to be the spokesman for Rural America.



W.K.KELLOGG
FOUNDATION

March 16, 1988

Dr. Torlief S. Aasheim, Treasurer
Montana State Rural Areas
Development Committee
517 West Koch
Bozeman, MT 59715

Dear Torlief:

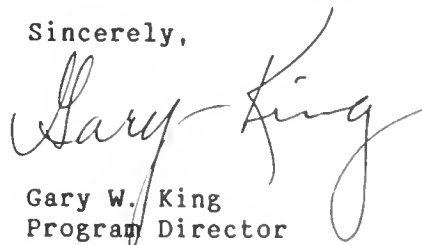
This is in response to your letter dated February 3 inquiring about the possibility of Foundation assistance to the Montana State RAD Committee. Let me congratulate you and your colleagues on the longevity of the Committee and its accomplishments over its 27 years of existence. It has served as an admirable neutral forum for ideas and discussion regarding Montana's rural areas and economy. That just about takes in the whole state.

We have discussed the possibility of assistance to the Montana State RAD Committee in the light of our program priorities and our present and projected commitments. Any grant to this organization would fall into our category entitled, "Rural America." This is an emergent, or experimental, area of our grantmaking. Since we already have one grant in this series to Montana (Montana State University - President Ken Weaver - for training of local governmental officials), we are unlikely to approve another in this series. Therefore, I cannot be encouraging.

Moreover, it is unclear that we could make a grant to the Committee. I looked through the materials again and cannot find any Internal Revenue Service letter of determination. If you intend to approach other foundations, perhaps you ought to look into applying for non-profit (501(c)3) status. Foundations won't accept approval of third-class mailing privileges; they need the IRS letter of determination and often must ask for additional documentation.

It was good to be in touch again and know things are going well with you. I regret I must respond in the negative, but send best wishes for progress to the RAD Committee and best personal regards to you.

Sincerely,



Gary W. King
Program Director

GWK/tlb
921C/11

**MONTANA
STATE
UNIVERSITY**

College of Agriculture & Extension Service
Agricultural Experiment Station
Office of the Dean and Director
Montana State University
Bozeman, MT 59717
406-994-3681

JUL 15 1988

July 13, 1988

Dr. Charles Rust
RAD Secretary
Linfield Hall

Dear Charlie:

Attached is a Resolution prepared by the RAD Weed Committee Chairman, Wayne Pearson, for approval by the Executive Committee. Would you please present it at the meeting on July 21 and 22? Thanks.

Sincerely,



LeRoy D. Luft
Associate Director, ES

LDL:jj
2Resol.711
Attachment
cc: Torlief Aasheim

RESOLUTION

BE IT RESOLVED that noxious weed control on rangeland be declared a soil conservation practice rather than a production-oriented program. Research done by Dr. John Lacey, Extension Range Specialist, has demonstrated increased soil erosion from spotted knapweed infested rangeland as compared to grass cover. Declaring weed control on native rangeland by the ASCS Committee would qualify the practice for monetary support by local conservation districts. We would further request state level cost sharing participation to continue efforts started by projects funded by the Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund. This could possibly be in the form of continued funding for a maintenance program of three to five years after the initial grant is expended and a successful program is established. This would encourage continued weed control in project areas and prevent reinfestation.

MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Charles Rust, Exec. Sec.
Extension Service
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59717
(406) 994-3511

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MONTANA RURAL AREA DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

July 21, 1988
GranTree Inn, Bozeman, Montana

Attendance:

Charles Rust
Frank Thompson
Bob LeProwse
L. E. Hawke
Bernard Harkness
Box Evertz
Jim Bermes
Connie Townsend
Torlief Aasheim
Ole Ueland
Gene Quenemoen
Elaine Schlenker
Terry Murphy
Mike Reichman
Wayne Pierson
Andy Neal
Roy Linn
Kim Ekenrud
James Flynn
Curt Lund
Claudette Morton

July 21, 1988

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. and called for a reading of the minutes. Bernard Harkness moved, seconded by Bob Evertz, that we approve the minutes as mailed.

Frank Thompson reported, and it was further discussed by James Bermes and Bob Evertz, that our letter to the Secretary of Agriculture concerning the CRP program was on target and did accomplish our purpose.

Minutes

Executive Committee, Montana Rural Areas Development Committee
July 21, 1988, Bozeman, Montana

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The Treasurer's report indicated that we have \$7.23 in the treasury and we owe the Treasurer \$150.31 for expenses from his own pocket. Discussion followed on how to raise funds. Some of the member organizations suggested they might make a significant contribution to the treasury. They will discuss it and respond at the next meeting.

Keith Williams' papers will be given to Charles Rust for his use and reference.

Bob Evertz discussed a RAD leadership subcommittee. He has discussed it with MLDA (Montana Leadership Development Association) to determine if they are willing to serve as the leadership subcommittee. At their meeting in June they agreed that they would be willing to serve as the leadership subcommittee. MLDA has been active in conducting training. Attached is a statement of MLDA and a list of workshops and forums.

Elaine Schlenker discussed the Family Community Leadership project which is funded in part (\$50,000) by the Kellogg Foundation. She handed us a descriptive brochure of the program. The first workshop will be this November and is four days in length (30 hours) it will have a twenty-four person limit. Attached is a brochure explaining the Family Community Leadership program. It ties in with and supports the MLDA program.

It was agreed that MLDA would be an appropriate leadership subcommittee of RAD. It was moved by Bob Evertz and seconded by Bob LeProwse that MLDA be the Community Leadership subcommittee of RAD. The motion passed.

Bob Evertz will be the Executive Committee representative on the committee and will develop a purpose statement consistent with other RAD subcommittees. He will bring a statement to the Executive Committee meeting (October 11 and 12) as well as a membership list.

Gene Quenemoen has discussed the idea of an agricultural policy subcommittee with several people to get some ideas on reestablishing an ag policy subcommittee. The attached notes reflect his discussions.

Minutes

Executive Committee, Montana Rural Areas Development Committee
July 21, 1988, Bozeman, Montana
Page 3

Gene said that Dr. Watts and Dr. Luft indicated that they would provide three staff members who would serve on such a committee if RAD so desired. The three staff would most likely be Verne House, James Johnson, and Myles Watts. They would be willing to help as appropriate but would not be willing to serve as officers of the subcommittee. Ole Ueland stated that all subcommittees have some interest in policy and they could then work with the policy subcommittee.

It was moved by Torlief Aasheim and seconded by Connie Townsend that we establish an ag policy subcommittee. The motion passed. Gene Quenemoen will organize an ag policy subcommittee and prepare a statement of purpose in a similar format as other subcommittees and develop a membership list.

The meeting adjourned until 9 a.m. Friday morning.

July 22, 1988

Following the action of last evening it was agreed that we move forward immediately with leadership and ag policy subcommittees. Organization and establishment of these committees will provide the opportunity for these committees to meet at the RAD annual meeting.

Discussion on the mission of Montana State University was the next order of business. Concerns were expressed about the direction of high tech and down playing of agriculture. Concern was expressed about the management of the MSU Plant Growth Center. After considerable discussion it was agreed this is a concern and we will have Wayne Pierson discuss it with Dean Welsh. We need as much national participation as possible in the MSU facility. A question was asked as to how much this is influenced by the other problems and directions of MSU.

It was pointed out that the last few sessions of the legislature have treated MSU and President Tietz adversely. Some of the suggested MSU directions are a result of the lack of legislative support. If the legislature is down playing agriculture we need to express our concerns to them. It is felt that the Board of Regents are also a key and that we need to continue to provide them with input of our concerns.

It was suggested that we prepare a letter to the Board of Regents expressing our concerns about the direction and

Minutes

Executive Committee, Montana Rural Areas Development Committee
July 21, 1988, Bozeman, Montana

Page 4

priorities for Montana State University. Discussion followed about the direction of undergraduate instruction with the de-emphasis of agriculture. It was moved by Mike Reichman and seconded by Terry Murphy that we draft a letter to the Board of Regents expressing our concerns about the de-emphasis on the undergraduate work and the lack of support for agriculture at MSU. Torlief Aasheim and Gene Quenemoen were asked to work with Chairman Thompson to prepare such a letter and bring it to our next meeting for approval. It was moved by Ole Ueland to amend the motion to prepare a proposed mission statement for MSU to become part of the letter, seconded by Torlief Aasheim. The amendment passed.

Crop and Livestock Situation, Curt Lund, Assistant State Statistician — The SRS has been inundated with requests for data on the drought situation. They have done some special surveys in an attempt to keep current. He provided us with some of the depressing data as of last week. Copies of SRS reports were distributed that identified crop and weather conditions in Montana.

Wildlife Habitat Acquisition, Jim Flynn — HB526 addressed habitat needs in the state of Montana. Funding sources provide about \$2.6 million per year from increased license fees, et al. There will be a sunset to this act by 1991. The legislature attached a statement of intent that provides direction to the department. Revenue needs to be directed to wildlife habitat and is not specific to a species or to access. It needs to be distributed throughout Montana.

They also need to develop a priority of land acquisition.

There are problems associated with implementing the program, such as:

1. Conservation easement vs. outright acquisition,
2. Neighbors are interested and can possibly do some land trading in exchange for easements,
3. Landowners who are willing to talk conservation easement would prefer to get other land rather than cash.

The legislation prefers conservation easements but it doesn't always fit the needs and desires of the landowners who are willing to participate. A conservation easement normally

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maintains the status quo. Seldom, if ever, is there added management involved. Basically it is to prevent subdivision or other undesirable development as it impacts wildlife habitat.

Montana School Accreditation, Claudette Morton, Board of Public Education — Montana has accredited schools for over 50 years. The standards are revised from time to time. A school that is not accredited will not receive funding from the legislature.

Last summer the board started Project Excellence for the next century. They began with a large meeting of 50 or more people to initiate discussions on adjustments in standards.

They worked with two legislative committees--an oversight and finance subcommittee.

They have 750 separate pieces of testimony from the hearings last spring. There will be another draft in September and a public hearing in November. It will be finalized in December and initiated next July. They want a goal-oriented curriculum. Some things will require an extensive time period to phase into the school program.

Montana Weed Program, Barbra Mullin — On April 11, 1988, Ms. Mullin assumed her duties as State Weed Coordinator within the Department of Agriculture. About 50% of her time is spent with weed districts and 50% administering the Weed Trust Fund. They currently have a newsletter for weed districts plus the yearly training seminar for weed districts.

The Weed Trust Fund and council have put out \$1.3 million since the fund started. Most projects are on the ground weed control. One-third has gone into biological weed control. There are 37 different projects throughout the state.

They are looking for creative ways to fund county weed districts. Another goal is to maintain the funding level for the Weed Management Program.

Weed Committee Resolution: The following resolution was read. Terry Murphy moved for adoption of the resolution and was seconded by LeProwse. The motion was withdrawn with approval of the second. It was agreed that we ask Wayne Pierson to clarify this resolution at the next executive meeting.

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BE IT RESOLVED that noxious weed control on rangeland be declared a soil conservation practice rather than a production-oriented program. Research done by Dr. John Lacey, Extension Range Specialist, has demonstrated increased soil erosion from spotted knapweed-infested rangeland as compared to grass cover. Declaring weed control on native rangeland by the ASCS Committee would qualify the practice for monetary support by local weed districts. We would further request state level cost sharing participation to continue efforts started by projects funded by the Montana Noxious Weed Trust Fund. This could possibly be in the form of continued funding for a maintenance program of three to five years after the initial grant is expended and a successful program is established. This would encourage continued weed control in project areas and prevent reinfestation.

Report by LeRoy Luft —

1. Status of Extension Forester - Mr. Bob Logan has agreed to accept the Forestry position and will begin work with us on September 1. He has 12 years of Extension Forestry experience, the first 8 being as a County Extension Forester in Oregon and the last 4 years as a regional Extension Forestry Specialist in California. The Search Committee was very high on Bob, as were those of us here that had an opportunity to visit with him. We look forward to having him on board and feel that he will do an excellent job.
2. Safety and Worker's Compensation - Roy Linn has met with the head of the Worker's Compensation Division at least twice and I met with him on one of those occasions. We felt, with our discussion at that time, that it might be possible to get some operating money for the 1988-89 fiscal year and a larger sum for the next biennium. Even if funds to help support the safety position should not be forthcoming, we feel that we have established an excellent contact and have begun to develop a working relationship with the Worker's Comp Division. Roy was going to have another meeting with the individual in charge of agricultural safety.

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3. SBA Economic Development Conference, June 21 and 22- Approximately 45 people attended this Economic Development Conference held at the Student Union on June 21 and 22. This was one of SBA's State Conferences with co-sponsorship by the Extension Service, RAD, and a number of other groups and organizations. The program consisted of reports by various agencies that offer assistance in the area of economic development, as well as some experiences by individuals who recently have started new ventures or economic development activities in Montana. It was a good conference but, unfortunately, was not attended as well as it should have been.
4. EIS on Grasshoppers - This is a State Department of Agriculture activity and all I can report here is that Keith Kelly indicated that they had three hearings around the State of Montana that were not well attended, but did have some active participation. Apparently, DOA will move forward with their environmental impact statement.
5. Russian Wheat Aphid - The Russian wheat aphid is known to be in 12 counties in Montana, centered around south-central Montana. It has appeared now in Gallatin County. Because of its known movement northward and because it was located last fall in southeastern Montana, our entomology group planned for it over the winter and was on top of the situation when the aphids arrived initially in Big Horn County. They have held numerous educational meetings informing producers and others on when to initiate chemical control, if necessary, and the group has also established a number of test plots in various locations. Currently, at least six traps are strategically located to help determine the presence of the aphid in various areas. Initially, the aphid was moving northwesterly. However, it has also now moved northeasterly because it is also found in Musselshell and Golden Valley counties. Extension and research faculty have been working very closely on the aphid situation.

Governor's Ad Hoc Meeting — Connie Townsend reported on the last ad hoc meeting. She reviewed some of the agenda items and the discussion. The next ad hoc meeting is in December.

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Status of Access — Connie Townsend indicated it is perhaps a bit premature as it is in legal action (access to the school lands). General public lands access activity is being discussed at the national level. There is an institute in Colorado that is preparing a "think" paper on general access issues. There is one access decision attached as reported in the 7/17/88 issue of the Bozeman Chronicle.

It was agreed that we delay further discussion until a later meeting.

Date and Location of Next Meeting — October 11 and 12, 1988, Bozeman, Montana.

Suggestions for Annual Meeting December 5, 6, and 7 — Several people orchestrated their ideas for Torley. He will bring a sample agenda to the next Executive Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.



Charles H. Rust
Executive Secretary

Attachments: The Montana Leadership Development Association
Family Community Leadership
Rationale for an Agricultural Policy Subcommittee
Access article, Bozeman Chronicle, 7/17/88

min7-88/tnm/July 28, 1988

RATIONALE FOR AN AGRICULTURAL POLICY ELB-COMMITTEE

1. New national farm policy legislation is scheduled for 1990.
2. Imminent agricultural technology and current serious public finance problems will bring strong pressures during the next decade to reduce the present levels of farm programs and subsidies. The potential impact on Montana's rural communities is serious.
3. Resources of MEU can be utilized to address agricultural policy issues through interaction with an organized group of lay leaders such as the RAD committee.
4. The leadership represented on the State RAD Committee provides a significant diffusion set for agricultural policy and community development ideas in Montana. MEU could exploit this resource in achieving its own objectives of economic development for the State.
5. An agricultural policy sub-committee could provide a sharper focus on agricultural and related community development issues than the committee as a whole. This may be important during times of unusually rapid change.

POTENTIAL COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES

1. Annual review of agricultural policy issues and their impact on Montana communities.
2. Co-sponsor educational events.
3. Prepare resolutions for consideration by the RAD Committee, aimed at influencing State/Federal farm policy planning and implementation.

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
MONTANA RURAL AREA DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

OCTOBER 11, 1988

ATTENDANCE:

Frank Thompson
Willie Milliron
Bob Ross
Gordon Sanders
Don Ochsner
Mike Malone
Gene Quenemoen
Jim Bermes
Bob Evertz
James Welsh
Torlief Aasheim
Bernard Harkness

Terry Murphy
Ole Ueland
Pam Langley
Lyle Pratt
Everett Snortland
Verne House
James Standaert
James Costanagna
Roy Linn
Charles Rust
Ralph Mannix

MSU DIRECTION AND CONCERN

James Welsh, Dean of Agriculture, and Mike Malone, Vice President of MSU, met with us and discussed the emphasis of the MSU teaching and research program.

Dean Welsh indicated the primary emphasis is the educational process. He then discussed the drop in enrollment within the College of Agriculture. He made available a document on "1988 Program Highlights" for the MSU College of Agriculture. Research in agriculture has always been important and has been traditionally about half the total MSU research budget.

Dean Welsh said that the College of Agriculture is committed to a strong undergraduate program.

Vice President Malone said that there is no way MSU will go out of an undergraduate program in agriculture nor will it go out of the Extension business. MSU is 10% graduate and 90% undergraduate programs.

The general downpressure on budgets the last four years has impacted perceptions by students about the quality of the education program. However, most who are graduating say they are getting a quality education.

RANGE COMMITTEE:

Willie Milliron and Bob Ross indicated they have met and are recommending Russ Unruh as Rangeman of the Year and Dr. Kris

Havstad as the Range Technician of the Year. These were selected from a field of four ranchers and four technicians. They would like to see Sam Short get a special award for his work with the youth in Montana.

The Range Committee is considering that all ranchers who have received the award be listed on a plaque and hang it at the Stockgrowers office. They are proceeding to seek out some way to pursue such an effort. Bob has a list of all of the winners since the award was started. When presentations are made at the annual meeting they would like a little more publicity.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Letters were received from Gene Quenemoen, President William Tietz and Bob LeProwse.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

Torlief indicated we are in the red but he has been contacting some local banks and has received some contributions.

RAD has a bank balance of	\$239.55
RAD owes Torlief	(240.67)
RAD owes Rust	(22.51)

Those who have contributed by Associate Members since last meeting are:

Interwest Bank	\$ 50
Montana Bank	50
1st Security Bank	100
Montana Farmers Union	25
Montana Grange	25

It was suggested we all talk to our local bankers and solicit some associate members.

ANNUAL MEETING:

The Agenda for the Annual Meeting on December 5, 6, and 7, 1988 was reviewed. Several suggestions were made to convention chairman Aasheim. The committee agreed to the attached agenda.

PROPOSED GROUNDWATER LEGISLATION

Pam Langley, Executive Secretary Montana AG Business Assoc. (MABA), met with us to discuss proposed legislation on "Mt Agricultural Chemical Groundwater Protection Act." In Montana according to a recent study, agriculture is ranked fifth as a source of groundwater pollution. In order of importance are:

1. Underground storage
2. Mining
3. Hazardous waste

4. Septic tanks
5. Agriculture.

In Montana there have been some identified cases of contamination, but so far reasonably isolated. MABA has decided to take an active role in this issue and establish guidelines that are preventive in nature and protect both the user and consumers. Hopefully, they can be site specific and use best management practices based upon research and other scientific evidence. Funding provisions of the proposed act will be a fee on sales of products.

MABA is meeting with farm groups, water groups and environmental groups in an effort to continually shape this proposed legislation to best serve Montana agriculture.

MABA will have a draft for circulation within the next ten days. On October 27th, the Environmental Quality Council will discuss groundwater all day. On that day Pam Langley will present the MABA legislation. Other discussion on groundwater quality will be discussed.

On December 1 in Helena, there is a conference on Water issues. Groundwater quality will be one of three water topics.

Under management plans Ole Ueland suggested it should be approved by the county weed districts. This would help with on-site variations.

Pam asked that we have someone be a contact to review the legislation or at least attend EQC meeting.

IMPACT OF DROUGHT & DROUGHT LEGISLATION ON MONTANA - Lyle Pratt, Chairman USDA/FAC, Everett Snortland, Chairman USDA, Emergency Board

Lyle distributed crop and price estimates. When comparing the Montana drought of 1988 with the drought of 1985, it appears that financially we are better off in 1988 than 1985. He circulated three documents with the current statistics.

Looking at Crop and Weather reports suggest we are still in trouble and need more moisture in the near future. Only two locations are reporting above normal for moisture.

Everett indicated several emergency programs were implemented early. Disaster assessments were for the governor to request disaster declaration which helps make available low interest loans, et al. He circulated the attached material on disaster program approval dates. He discussed these in some detail.

Everett circulated the attached copy of questions and answers for crop aid and feed aid. The drought assistance is

more useful for the crop producers than it is for the livestock producer.

SAFETY COMMITTEE

Roy Linn informed us that Workmen's Compensation Division has provided some funding for Farm Safety Education (\$6,000 grant). This agreement was signed by Workmen's Compensation and the Montana Cooperative Extension Service. This is a result of the May RAD meeting in which the Executive Committee articulated needs with Workman's Compensation representatives.

WATER FORUM

Verne House invited us all to the Water Forum on December 1, 1988, Colonial Inn, Helena.

IMPACT OF CRP ON MONTANA

James Standaert discussed the results of his analysis of CRP impacts on rural Montana. He provided a document that details the analysis.

MONTANA'S 1988 FIRE

James Costanagna state Department of Lands presented a slide presentation on the 88 Benchmark year. Things that will be examined in the coming year are Fire Danger Ratings, Fire Severity, Number and Size of Fires, Policies will be re-examined and re-tried.

This year there was considerable wildland and residential interfacing. This was a whole new experience and will be more critical in the future.

The preliminary cost figures are staggering.

AG POLICY SUB-COMMITTEE

Gene Quenemoen discussed the proposed purpose and membership of the Agricultural Policy Subcommittee. He suggests agency people be technical advisors or called upon for any particular meeting.

It was moved by Bernard Harkness and seconded by Bob Evertz that we accept Gene Quenemoen's Ag Policy Subcommittee report as presented. (See attached.) Motion carried.

Gene Quenemoen will serve as temporary chairman to set up the subcommittee to organize the first meeting and program. It will be at the December 6 Annual Meeting of RAD. He will use the technical advisors to develop the program that will identify those things important to RAD to pursue in the future.

The proposed membership will be contacted and revised at the discretion of Gene Quenemoen.

LEADERSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE

Bob Evertz presented a statement of purpose (see attached). This committee is composed of the Montana Leadership Development Association. The Board of MLDA is meeting October 29th and will finalize their association with RAD at that time, based upon today's proposal. They will have their annual meeting in February. The Leadership subcommittee membership list was provided by Bob. The recommendation by Bob was accepted.

NOMINATIONS FOR AWARDS

It was moved by Torley and seconded by Bernard that we accept the recommendation of the range subcommittee. Motion passed.

Some discussion surfaced as to how subcommittees do or should function in presenting nominations. It was recommended that in the future we clarify the procedure as it is outlined in the by-laws.

It was suggested the chairman meet with subcommittees at the annual meeting and encourage them to reward people for outstanding achievements in their areas of endeavor.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH BOARD OF REGENTS

The proposed letter to the Board of Regents was reviewed. After last evening's discussion with Vice President Mike Malone and Dean Welsh, it was felt that there was very little disagreement between RAD's position and that expressed by Vice Pres. Malone and Dean Welsh. It was moved by Bernard Harkness and seconded by Don Ochsner that RAD submit the proposed letter as written with copies to President Tietz and Chairman Krause.

MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Frank Thompson, Chairman
Wolf Creek, Montana 59648
(406) 235-4396

May 24, 1988

Bernard Harkness, Vice Chairman
Dell, Montana 59724
(406) 276-3336

TO: R.A.D. Executive Committee and
Alternates

Torlief S. Aasheim, Treasurer
517 West Koch
Bozeman, Montana 59715
(406) 587-7256

FROM: Torlief Aasheim

RE: The Mission of Montana State University

Don Ochsner
Montana Farm Bureau
Broadus Route
Miles City, Montana 59301
(406) 232-2724

At our Executive Committee meeting on May 11 we discussed items for the Agenda for our meeting to be held in Bozeman on July 21 and 22. I indicated that I thought we should discuss the mission of Montana State University in light of current trends and administrative comments. You will recall that President Tietz attended our Executive Committee meeting on October 7. In reply to a question as to what he regarded as the mission of M.S.U., he replied, "Quality."

Robert LeProwse
Champion Timberlands
Bonner, Montana 59823
(406) 258-5511

We all would agree that quality should be an important factor when Charting the Course of a university, but many of us who have been associated with M.S.U. through the years are also concerned about what direction the University takes in terms of service to Montana generally and to our young people who go there as students.

Terry Murphy, President
Montana Farmers Union
2447
Great Falls, Montana 59403
(406) 452-6406

As an example of concerns being expressed, I am attaching a letter to Dr. Tietz written December 8, 1986. This letter was sent from a number of individuals who have retired from M.S.U. Similar concerns are being expressed by many others. Members of the Board of Regents have raised questions.

Connie Townsend
White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645
(406) 547-3453

Bob Evertz
Joliet, Montana 59041
(406) 962-3368

You will note that in this letter it was suggested that emphasis should be given to the fact that M.S.U. is a Land Grant Institution and that the University Mission should be to give priority to undergraduate instruction.

Forrest Farris, President
Montana State Grange
550 Three Mile Drive
Kalispell, Montana 59901
(406) 257-3636

Mike Reichman
Montana Power Company
1006 West Main
Bozeman, Montana 59715
(406) 586-1331

These two statements particularly agree with my biases as they relate to Montana State University. I am concerned that President Tietz does not support that line of thinking because of actions he has taken, letters he has written and news releases which have quoted him.

Leroy Luft, Assoc. Director
Extension Service
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59717
(406) 994-3402

Charles Rust, Exec. Sec.
Extension Service
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59717
(406) 994-3511

Here are some instances of news releases which quote President Tietz.

"Undergraduate education is important, but there are other institutions in the state for students and parents who want a heavy emphasis on undergraduate study.

On a personal basis when kids need assistance the assistance is always there," says Tietz "But this institution's priorities are at the upper division and graduate levels... there are good opportunities for undergraduate and lower level study at other institutions in the state."

(Note I have attached a full page of a newspaper clipping which includes the above statements.)

In the Bozeman Daily Chronicle of December 16, 1986 in reference to budget cuts he said: "Some programs such as university research efforts, the honors program, admissions and faculty development have been spared from the budget aX."

In the Billings Gazette of June 2, 1987, he states: "M.S.U. will reduce the services provided to the rest of the state such as testing."

In the Bozeman Daily Chronicle of June 15, 1987 he states: "When we arrived 10 years ago, research expenditures at M.S.U. were running about 13% of the total university budget, but now we are running about 23% in research," Tietz says.

I could go on with many other examples of the direction which Tietz thinks is appropriate. He may be correct, of course, and he has written me that M.S.U. is not going back to the good old days and that current administration will determine the future path of M.S.U. I suppose there is merit to his position, but I believe people who pay the bill and live in the state should help determine what they pay for. I believe our interest in admission standard proposals is a good example of effective public participation.

I am attaching some newspaper clippings which will help you in understanding my concern. With the concerns I have expressed in this letter, you will be better prepared to discuss the matter at our July meeting in Bozeman.

I have made arrangements to have our dinner and meeting at the GranTree Inn. Dinner on the evening of the 21st at 6:00 P.M., meeting all day on the 22nd.



Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59717

Office of the President

Telephone (406) 994-2341

October 6, 1988

Frank Thompson
Chairman
Montana Rural Area
Development Committee
Wolf Point, MT 59648

Dear Mr. Thompson:

Torlief's letter draft is clearly borne of great concern about the future of Montana State University. We share that concern, but we have good reason to believe that our undergraduate program is not only strong, but the envy of the University System.

Since Torlief and I have met and corresponded over many of the issues raised in his letter, let me share some of my comments with you. Perhaps they will provide another perspective.

It is true that our research expenditures have increased as a percentage of our budget and we take pride in this, but please be assured these increases do not represent money taken from the undergraduate program as Torlief's letter seems to imply. These are new dollars brought into the state by a creative and competitive faculty. In fact, our research budget funded through external grants and contracts is a major factor in the state's economic development.

Further, our research efforts have helped us attract more qualified people to teach at the undergraduate level as well as equipping many of our undergraduate scientific labs. We firmly believe that good teaching and good research are connected.

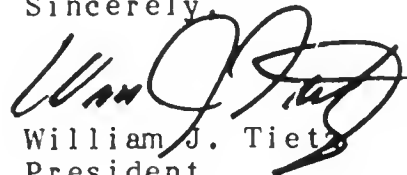
The emphasis on high tech research to which Torlief refers is appropriate for a land-grant university and a standard throughout the 50 states. But perhaps we are dealing with only a semantic misunderstanding here. The enclosed article is an excellent example of what we mean by high tech research.

Frank Thompson
October 6, 1988
page 2

Torlief's letter is long and, as noted in the beginning, clearly the result of great concern. For that reason I will renew the offer I have made many times before to the RAD Executive Committee board. Let's meet to talk about these concerns.

Dr. Welsh will be joining you at your October meeting. Perhaps you would be good enough to let him know if you wish to discuss these issues further. I am certainly willing.

Sincerely,



William J. Tietz
President

WJT:daj

Enclosure

cc: Torlief S. Aasheim

War on knapweed

MSU team makes promising discovery that may lead to biodegradable herbicide

By KEVIN McRAE
Chronicle Staff Writer
and The Associated Press

When Andrea Stierle came to Montana State University four years ago to work toward a doctoral degree, she wanted to undertake a project combining her interests in plant biology and organic chemistry.

Her professors had just the project for her: Do something about spotted knapweed, the noxious weed that's choking out

natural plant growth on thousands of acres of rangeland, recreation land and roadsides across Montana.

She appears to have succeeded. Stierle, 34, recently developed a natural substance that appears to kill only knapweed and offers hope in the war against the weed.

The substance, developed from a toxic fungus she found growing on a knapweed plant, might open the door to further development

See WAR, page 8

War/ *from page 1*

of biodegradable herbicides.

But it's far too early to talk of marketing the product, Stierle said today in an interview from San Diego's Scripps Institution of Oceanography.

"So many people have said, 'Wow, you've found a way to kill knapweed,'" she said. "But there's still a lot of testing to do."

Stierle working closely with MSU plant pathology Professor Gary Strobel and chemistry Professor John Cardellina.

Strobel said the discovery was a significant breakthrough in weed-control research, but it will be quite a few years before any related product will show up on the market, if it ever does.

"It's far too early to emphasize the commercial potential at this time," he said. "We don't have enough of the substance to do enough tests."

Strobel said the substance is relatively easy to manufacture, and the university has opened negotiations with at least one pesticide manufacturer in hopes of enlisting the discovery in the battle against the noxious weeds.

More important, though, Strobel said the discovery, which will be published soon in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, demonstrates that naturally occurring pathogens can be used to control the spread of weeds.

He said knapweed can be genetically altered to produce the lethal compound on its own. That could lead to a strain of suicidal knapweed.

Meanwhile, Strobel expects a practical application of the discovery, which has been patented, will be at least a couple of years away. MSU already is in contact with one pesticide manufacturer.

Strobel said the knapweed discovery marks the first time anyone has found a pathogen growing on weeds that will affect only those weeds.

"It might take us 10 years, but the significance is that we've taken a major step in understanding weed control through the use of naturally occurring substances," Strobel said. "And there's no question that this would be biodegradable."

To find a natural substance for killing knapweed, Stierle first had to find a sick knapweed plant. She spent much of the summer of 1984 searching among thousands of plants in western Montana.

"The unhealthy ones were far and few between because knapweed is such a healthy plant," she said.

But she finally found one with "lesions and rotting areas" growing just "a couple thousand yards" from her house in Butte.

After determining in the laboratory that the sick plant had four types of fungi growing on it, she found that one was the killing the plant.

Working closely with Strobel and

Cardellina, Stierle then determined which molecules were pathogenic, or produced disease.

She found that a combination of two amino acids were responsible for killing the weed, and MSU scientists developed about half a gram of the substance.

Stierle tested the substance on about 30 other plants, and knapweed was the only plant affected.

Strobel was at the center of controversy last fall for his research on Dutch elm disease. Looking for ways to prevent the disease, he injected 14 trees with genetically altered bacteria without prior approval from the Environmental Protection Agency. He later cut the trees down.

Biodegradable herbicides break down naturally and are less damaging to the environment than other herbicides, such as 2,4-D, which kills knapweed but also kills most other broad-leaved plants it comes in contact with.

The knapweed project was half of Stierle's doctoral theses. She also did research in marine microbiology, studying the chemical components of sponges.

She's finished her doctoral studies and will serve a fellowship at the oceanography center in San Diego for one to two years. Her husband, Don, is a chemistry professor at Montana Tech in Butte. He is on a one-year sabbatical working at the same oceanography center.

MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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(406) 994-3511

Wolf Creek, Montana
October 13, 1988

TO: Board of Regents, Montana University System

FROM: Executive Committee, Montana Rural Areas Development Committee

RE: The Apparent Current Direction and Mission of Montana State University

The Constitution of the State of Montana, as ratified by the people of Montana, June 6, 1972, states that "The government and control of the Montana University System is vested in a Board of Regents of Higher Education which shall have full power, responsibility, and authority to supervise, coordinate, manage and control the Montana University System and shall supervise and coordinate other educational institutions assigned by law".

We, as a committee, recognize your authority and responsibility and it is for this reason that we write you this letter concerning the direction in which you appear to be leading Montana State University.

Our concern stems from statements which have been made or attributed to President Tietz, and from actions that you as a Board have taken or sanctioned.

Here are some examples of news releases which quote President Tietz:

"Undergraduate education is important, but there are other institutions in the state for students and parents who want a heavy emphasis on undergraduate study.

"On a personal basis when kids need assistance the assistance is always there," says Tietz, "but this institution's priorities are at the upper division and

graduate levels...there are good opportunities for undergraduate and lower level study at other institutions in the state."

In the Bozeman Daily Chronicle of December 16, 1986 in reference to budget cuts he said: "Some programs such as university research efforts, the honors program, admissions and faculty development have been spared from the budget ax."

In the Billings Gazette of June 2, 1987, he states: "M.S.U. will reduce the services provided to the rest of the state such as testing."

In the Bozeman Daily Chronicle of June 15, 1987 he states: "When we arrived 10 years ago, research expenditures at M.S.U. were running about 13% of the total university budget, but now are running about 23% in research." Tietz says.

Tietz has said that it must be proven to him that non-ag programs like 4-H and home economics are worthwhile (Bozeman Daily Chronicle, August 26, 1986).

Actions which you, as a Board, have taken such as higher admission standards, consolidation of the Cooperative Extension Service with the Agricultural Experiment Station, failure to support an Extension facility at M.S.U. and supporting the construction of the Advanced Technology Park at M.S.U. all are actions which would indicate a change in direction for M.S.U. It is clearly evident to us that the direction being given is toward research, high tech and graduate study.

The Morrill Act of 1862 which established the Land Grant Colleges stated that the overall objective was to be "the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions of life". The Hatch Act and Smith Lever Acts which followed provided for research connected with agriculture and the diffusion of information throughout the off-campus areas of each state.

The Hatch Act provided "That in order to aid in acquiring and diffusing among the people of the United States useful and practical information on subjects connected with agriculture and to promote scientific investigation and experiments respecting principles and application of agricultural science...there shall be established a department to be known and designed as an Agricultural Experiment Station.

The Smith Lever Act which established the Extension Service stated that the legal function of the Service is "to aid in the

diffusing among the people of the United States useful and practical information on subjects relating to agriculture and home economics and to encourage application of the same." Some additional insight into the original intent of the Extension movement may be obtained from the Congressional Record dated January 20, 1914, which stated that the Extension Leader, "In the very nature of things must give leadership and direction along all lines of rural activities - social, economic and financial." He is to assume leadership in every movement whatever it may be, the aim of which is better living, more happiness, more education, and better citizenship.

It is inevitable that needs of the people, which the universities serve, will change over time, but we, as a committee, do not agree with your drastic change in emphasis.

The general purpose and mission of the Montana University System is stated in the Appendix of the Montana State University Undergraduate Catalog of 1988-1991. This statement says in part:

"The University System encompasses the three traditional functions of a University - instruction, research and public service - and strives for excellence in all three areas."

"The primary responsibility of all six units is to provide quality undergraduate education."

Problems and needs of the people change, but the need for Montana State University to continue to help people, on and off campus, to cope with change still exists.

People in Montana still need useful and practical information and there is a need for a continued commitment to serve students with the best possible undergraduate program which requires commitment from faculty and support from administration.

Research should be prioritized to solve problems of Montana and its people, and high tech research which is not focused on such problems should be scrutinized in terms of how it detracts from or supports the mission of the University.

We feel that the mission of Montana State University should be to serve Montana and its people by giving priority to a quality undergraduate program, research efforts which focus on Montana problems, and an Extension program which serves the public whatever their needs may be.


M.S.U. has a proud past supported by alumni, faculty and the general public. The general public has an impression of what the mission of the institution should be and their continued support


will depend, to a large extent, on how they feel that mission is being carried out. M.S.U. has proudly proclaimed that "The State is our Campus". We must retain that attitude and philosophy.


As a committee, we feel a responsibility to offer you these comments because of our sincere interest in serving Montana's human and natural resources in the most effective manner by Montana State University.

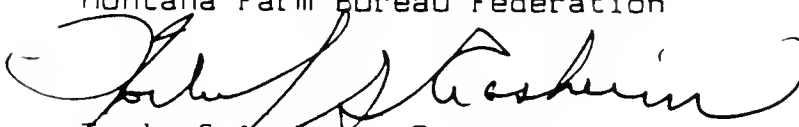
Sincerely,

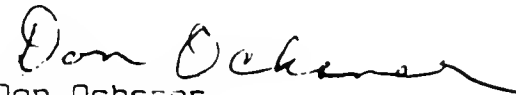

Frank Thompson, Chairman
Farmer - Rancher


Bob LeProwse
Champion Timberlands


Bernard Harkness, Vice Chrm.
Farmer - Rancher; Past President
Montana Farm Bureau Federation



Mike Reichman
Montana Power Company

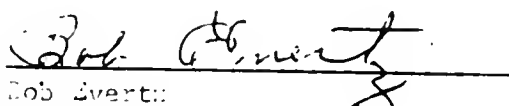

Torlief Rasheim, Treasurer
Director Emeritus, Montana
Cooperative Extension Service


Don Ochser
Farmer-Rancher; Past Pres.
Montana Farm Bureau Fed.


Terry Murphy, President
Montana Farmers Union


Connie Townsend
Rancher


Forest Farris, President
Montana State Grange


Bob Everts
Farmer - Rancher

CC: Governor Ted Schwinden
Dr. William Tietz
Ed Argenbright
Dr. Carrol Krause



BOARD OF REGENTS OF HIGHER EDUCATION
MONTANA UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
HELENA, MONTANA 59620-3101

(406) 444-6570

October 28, 1988

DENNIS LIND, CHAIRMAN
MISSOULA

BURT HURWITZ, VICE-CHAIRMAN
WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS

Frank Thompson, Chairman
Montana State Rural Areas Development Committee
Wolf Creek, MT 59648

JAMES KAZE
HAVRE

Dear Mr. Thompson:

WILLIAM L. MATHERS
MILES CITY

This letter is written in response to your communication of October 13, 1988 regarding the direction of Montana State University. Before responding to the issues raised, we wish to express our appreciation for the support the Montana State Rural Areas Development Committee has given to Montana State University and the System over the years.

BEA MCCARTHY
ANACONDA

ELSIE REDLIN
LAMBERT

For the record, it is stated in the University System "Role and Scope" adopted in 1974 that quality undergraduate education is the highest priority of the Board of Regents. This priority remains unchanged with the current members of the Board. Some of the examples you cite as evidence of movement away from that priority obviously have been misunderstood.

LEE ANN RILEY
MELROSE

EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS:

TED SCHWINDEN
GOVERNOR

Admission standards were adopted to increase the chances of students success in college, not to eliminate students. In the past, approximately 40 percent of the students who enrolled as freshmen at Montana State University did not enroll as sophomores. At least 25 percent did not enroll because they were failing in their coursework.

ED ARGENBRIGHT
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Students in the high schools have responded favorably to the admission standards. They are now taking courses which will increase their opportunity to succeed in college level work. Few will be excluded under the admission standards. Many more will be graduates, not drop-outs.

DR. CARROL KRAUSE
COMMISSIONER OF
HIGHER EDUCATION

Frank Thompson, Chairman
RAD Executive Committee
October 28, 1988


The Regents' support for the Advanced Technology Park and for placing the engineering-science building as a high priority in the long range building program are the result of the Board's belief that the University System must provide assistance to the state's economic development efforts. This research includes exploring ways to capitalize on Montana's agricultural production capacity. In addition, one has only to visit the current facilities intended to be replaced by the engineering-science building to realize they are a detriment to safety and to quality instruction and research.

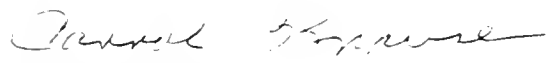
Although a new extension facility is highly desirable, the Board believed it was a lesser priority than the facilities recommended to the Governor and the Legislature. Funds are extremely limited, and there is no choice but to establish priorities even though everyone will not agree with the results.

In your letter you quoted various statements of Dr. Tietz. It is difficult to cast judgment on those statement unless they are reviewed in the context in which they were made. In any case, the Board's first priority will continue to be quality undergraduate education. It encourages research at the universities because without it, one of the critical elements of a university is missing. We believe research is essential to a quality instructional program both at the undergraduate and graduate level. Certainly, research can be a major contribution to the state's economic future.

Thank you for taking time to express your views. If you believe there is need for additional discussion of these matters, please contact us.

Sincerely,


Dennis E. Lind, Chairman
Board of Regents of Higher Education


Carol Krause
Commissioner of Higher Education

c: RADC Executive Committee
Regents

MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Frank Thompson, Chairman
Wolf Creek, Montana 59648
(406) 235-4396

Bernard Harkness, Vice Chairman
Dell, Montana 59724
(406) 276-3336

Torlief S. Aasheim, Treasurer
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Bozeman, Montana 59715
(406) 587-7256

Don Ochaner
Montana Farm Bureau
Broadus Route
Miles City, Montana 59301
(406) 232-2724

Robert LeProwse
Champion Timberlands
Bonner, Montana 59823
(406) 258-5511

Terry Murphy, President
Montana Farmers Union
2447
at Falls, Montana 59403
(406) 452-6406

Connie Townsend
White Sulphur Springs, MT 59645
(406) 547-3453

Bob Evertz
Joliet, Montana 59041
(406) 962-3368

Forrest Farris, President
Montana State Grange
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Kalispell, Montana 59901
(406) 257-3636

Mike Reichman
Montana Power Company
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Bozeman, Montana 59715
(406) 586-1331

Leroy Luft, Assoc. Director
Extension Service
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59717
(406) 994-3402

Arles Rust, Exec. Sec.
Extension Service
Montana State University
Bozeman, Montana 59717
(406) 994-3511

Wolf Creek, Montana
November. 15, 1988

Mr. Dennis Lind, Chairman
Board of Regents of Higher Education
Montana University System
33 South Last Chance Gulch
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Mr. Lind:

I have been on overseas travel and just returned home. I have the letter dated October 28th which was signed by you and Commissioner Krause.

I don't believe there is any misunderstanding, on our part, with what Dr. Tietz has said when he says "this institution's priorities are at the upper division and graduate levels". "Undergraduate education is important, but there are other institutions in the state for students who want a heavy emphasis on undergraduate study." This seems like plain talk which is easily understood.

Our annual meeting will be held in Bozeman on December 6, 7, and 8. At that time, I would like to be able to clear up the inconsistency which exists between what your letter states as the highest priority of the University System and that which Dr. Tietz states as the highest priorities of Montana State University.

Sincerely,

Frank Thompson, Chairman
Montana State RAD Comm.

cc: Dr. Carrol Krause

Box 662

White Sulphur Springs MT
November 29, 1988

Montana Rural Area Development Committee
Torlief Aasheim
517 West Koch
Bozeman, MT 59715

Dear RAD Members:

It is with regret that I feel I must resign from the Montana Rural Area Development Committee at this time. I have been asked to serve on an Education Committee for the Beef Industry Council of the National Live Stock and Meat Board. I attended my first meeting of this group in Chicago week before last.

While it will require some additional travel--primarily to Chicago---it may require a lot of additional time in the review of proposed programs and projects as well as input into the development of national materials for distribution to the various states. With this in mind, I feel that I should resign from the RAD Committee to allow someone with more time to devote to its programs to become an active, contributing member.

I have certainly enjoyed my association with RAD and want to thank you for the opportunity to have served in this capacity this past year. Since the Education Committee of the national Beef Industry Council is associated with my position with the Montana Beef Council, it became a top priority.

My best wishes to my successor and to all who are working toward the betterment of rural life here in our great state of Montana.

Sincerely,


Connie Townsend

cc: Frank Thompson, Chairman

PRELIMINARY AGENDA
ANNUAL MEETING
MONTANA RURAL AREA DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
HOLIDAY INN
BOZEMAN, MONTANA
DECEMBER 5,6,& 7, 1988

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5, 1988

5:00 - 6:30 P.M. Registration poolside, Holiday Inn

6:00 P.M. Dinner Meeting Executive Committee
 Minutes of last meeting
 Report of Executive Secretary
 Report of Treasurer
 Review plans for meeting including
 assignments to subcommittee
 chairmen
 Other as arranged

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1988

8:00 A.M. Coffee and doughnuts

9:00 A.M. Opening remarks, Chairman Thompson

9:10 A.M. Looking Ahead - Lt. Governor Kolstad

10:15 A.M. Coffee Break

10:45 A.M. Subcommittees meet

12:00 NOON Lunch - Forest Farris, Chairman
 Holiday Inn
 Speaker: Dr. Lindsay Norman, President,
 Montana Tech, Butte

1:30 P.M. Business meeting
 Frank Thompson, Chairman

1. Report of nominating committee, vote for 5. (Terms of Aasheim, Evertz, Harkness, Reichman and Farris expire.)
2. Report of Executive Director
3. Report of Treasurer
4. Comments, questions, or suggestions for the betterment of RAD.

2:15 P.M. Subcommittees reconvene in rooms as assigned. Coffee available at poolside at discretion of subcommittee chairmen.

5:00 P.M. Subcommittees adjourn
6:00 P.M. Social Hour
7:15 P.M. Awards Banquet, M.C. Torlief Aasheim
Speaker - Carl McIntosh

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1988

8:00 A.M. Executive Committee Breakfast
8:40 A.M. Subcommittee Reports,
Bernard Harkness, Chairman
8:50 A.M. Forestry - Howard McDowell, Chairman
9:30 A.M. Land and Water - Ole Ueland, Chairman
10:00 A.M. Livestock and Range
Willie Milliron, Chairman
10:20 A.M. Coffee Break
10:35 A.M. Reports Continue - Bob Evertz, Chairman
10:40 A.M. Weeds - Wayne Pearson, Chairman
11:10 A.M. Recreation & Wildlife
Jim Richard, Chairman
11:45 A.M. Lunch - Chairman Mike Reichman
Speaker - Donald Clark, Director
International Education, MSU
1:15 P.M. Subcommittee Reports continue
Terry Murphy, Chairman
1:20 P.M. Ag Policy Subcommittee
Gene Quenemoen, Chairman
1:50 P.M. Leadership Subcommittee
2:20 P.M. Safety and Chemicals
Roy Linn, Chairman
2:50 P.M. Coffee Break
3:15 P.M. Executive Committee Meets
Election of Officers
Evaluation of meeting

**RAD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
DECEMBER 5, 1988**

Attendance:

Torlief Aasheim
Ole Ueland
Bob LeProwse
Leroy Luft
Billy Hardeman
Dennis McComber
Jim Bermes
Frank Thompson

Dick Setterstrom
Wayne Pierson
Forrest Farris
Mike Reichman
Paul Ringling
Bob Evertz
Don Ochsner

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order at 7:30 P.M.

Treasurer's report

Torley Aasheim circulated a Financial Statement and we have a November 1, 1988 balance of \$156.89. Torley has recruited several associate memberships and has promise of more for the coming year.

Plans for the Annual Meeting

Conference Chairman Aasheim reviewed room and committee assignments. He also discussed the criteria that are used to select individuals for awards. Criteria are the same for all subcommittees. Committee representatives indicated that they haven't always been aggressive in selecting people for recognition.

Connie Townsend Resignation

Connie Townsend sent a letter of recognition to Chairman Frank Thompson. A replacement needs to be named to complete the unexpired term of Connie. Forrest Farris suggested that we contact Kim Ekenrud, Connie's alternate, to determine if she is interested in completing Connie's term. The name of Frank Daniels was also submitted and he will be contacted to verify his interest. We will decide at the Wednesday executive committee meeting.

State Department of Agriculture Young Couples Conference

The Department of Agriculture asked for nominations or support for the conference. It was agreed that we are not in a position to nominate or support a young couple for the conference. But, we appreciate the invitation and feel it is a worthwhile program.

Dan Ueland was nominated and the Executive Secretary will send a letter. (He called instead).

RAD Executive Secretary Report

The following report was made.

A brief summary of RAD actions include: letters written regarding the SCS efforts related to highly erodible land. The

letters had the desired effect and some changes were made. Meetings with Workman's Compensation Division resulted in a contract with the Extension Service to do added safety education to reduce work loss resulting from accidents.

Treasurer Aasheim has been instrumental in raising funds from outside sources to help finance mailings and other items of business.

RAD has been successful in organizing a Policy subcommittee which will meet for the first time this week. A Leadership subcommittee is in its final stages of organization. These two committees will address some key areas of interest and concern to rural Montana.

The Executive committee continued to address problems associated with the Board of Regents admission standards and emphasis that affects rural Montana high schools. Several discussions and correspondence was exchanged expressing our concern about some parts of the changes. Discussions continued with Pres. Tietz and other MSU administrators concerning public comments about undergraduate curriculum and graduate level emphasis.

This year subcommittee chairmen were urged to participate at all meetings of the executive committee. At this point not all chairmen have felt so inclined, we need to continue to encourage their participation as much as possible.

Other items we have discussed:

- Access to Public Lands
- Columbia Ground Squirrel control (written to senators)
- Alternative Agriculture
- Farm Management needs as they relate to 1985 Farm Program
- Co-sponsored the June Economic Development Conference at MSU
- Impact of CRP on rural Montana
- Biological control of weeds
- Supported added federal funding for the MSU-Bioscience Research Laboratory (letters sent to senators and congressmen)

Questions:

- Are we sending too much in the minutes?
- How do you like the shortened version of the annual report?
- Are the meeting rooms satisfactory throughout the year?

Executive committee members are complimented on their active and regular participation at the executive committee meetings.

It is suggested that we need to exercise more judgement on the items we place in the Annual Report, especially some of the key correspondence. However, most feel that the condensed version has been useful. It was moved that we go with the shortened version of the annual report. Motion passed. One hundred copies

of the annual report will be printed. It was generally agreed that most of the minutes are appropriate.

We need to exercise care on size of Executive Committee meeting rooms. This past year, they were small on two occasions.

National Rural Development

Ole Ueland said he had communications from the National Rural Development Committee. It appears that Rural Development will continue to be a high priority in the next administration.

Priorities of the People

LeRoy Luft circulated a document that summarized the 1988 Town Hall meetings. Several issues were identified and can be of possible use to subcommittees in their discussions. LeRoy has extra copies. For those who want more, please contact LeRoy.

Summary of Remarks by Lt. Gov.-Elect, Allen Kolstad

Government's role is to assist the individual develop his/her human and natural resources. The administration wants to provide an opportunity for people to grow.

The administration wants to improve the business climate by the following three major programs.

1. Reduce personal property tax
2. Change Workman's Compensation program
3. Change attitude of government to a pro-business climate.

Other Comments

Cost of doing business is a key when trying to attract business to locate in the State.

Privatization of some state services and trim the state work force.

Wants Workman's Compensation program to operate more like a private corporation.

Suggests an attitude adjustment by state workers to be supportive of business in Montana.

Needs a strong public education program before we can have an effective rural development. The administration wants to improve the educational institutions in Montana.

Time has come to develop a comprehensive water policy for Montana. That includes all of the interested groups.

Comprehensive transportation policy needs to be developed. Then, hopefully, can tie it together with foreign markets and especially Canada with competition of the free trade agreement.

Encourage value added products.

Increase development of tourist potential especially for northern and eastern part of Montana.

Charge to Subcommittees by Chairman Thompson

He challenged the subcommittees to be aggressive in their discussions and also include the following topics in their discussions.

- University admission standards
- Biological weed control
- Instream flow
- Fire management
- Access to Public Lands

December 6, 1988
1:30 P.M.
Business Meeting

Chairman Thompson called the meeting to order.

Don Ochsner gave the Nominating Committee Report. They re-nominated Aasheim, Evertz, Harkness, Farris and Reichman. Chairman Thompson called for nominations from the floor. Bob LeProwse moved, Luft seconded that nominations cease. Motion passed. It was moved by Don and seconded by Bob that the secretary cast an elective ballot for the five incumbents. Motion passed. Aasheim, Evertz, Harkness, Farris and Reichman have been elected to another two-year term.

Executive Secretary Rust presented his annual report as reported at last evening's executive committee meeting.

Treasurer Aasheim presented his report and the balance on November 1, 1987 was \$156.89. (After the close of RAD Conference on December 7, 1988, Treasurer Aasheim prepared the attached statement of the Annual Meeting.)

Dick Setterstrom suggested we have a promotional brochure to help in soliciting associate members. It was pointed out that we do have such a brochure and it is available.

It was suggested we need to do more on publicity of what has happened at our RAD meetings. It was pointed out that we do not have a subcommittee that deals directly with economic development and or community development. It was suggested that we reconsider such a committee. Bob Evertz briefly related the goals of the Leadership Development committee and some activities they have implemented.

Don Woods suggested that perhaps we need to do more with community leaders such as bankers, Chambers of Commerce, League of Cities and Towns. He felt such an effort could help provide support for RAD through added associate members.

**December 7, 1988
Breakfast Meeting**

Some committees were more active than others. Ole made a plea that the Policy committee should meet at a separate time so that more of the other sub-committee people could participate in the policy committee.

Replacement for Connie Townsend

After considerable discussion Frank Daniels and Kim Ekenrud were nominated. Frank Daniels was elected by secret ballot.

The format of the Annual Meeting seems to be working reasonable well. It allows more preparation time for report back and resolutions.

Awards at the Banquet

Russ Unrah of Chinook received the Rangeman of the Year award. Kris Havstad received the Range Technician of the Year award. These selections were made by the range subcommittee for outstanding contributions to the range resources of Montana. A special award for consistent aggressive subcommittee work was presented to Roy Linn.

Suggestions for Future Agenda Items of Executive Committee

1. Wilderness issues to include discussion on the wolf recovery program.
2. The Land and Water subcommittee (Ole) will continue to keep us informed on water development and continue to identify areas where RAD can take action.
3. MSU is requesting \$6 m of federal funds to expand the Plant Pathology portion of the Plant Growth Center on campus. A feasibility fund has been appropriated and will be conducted by the Feds and will be completed in April. Welsh requests that we once again send letters of support to congressmen and senators.

December 7, 1988
2:30 P.M.
Executive Committee Meeting

Frank Daniels was welcomed to the executive committee to fill the unexpired term of Connie Townsend.

It was moved by Ole, seconded by Bob, that we send a letter to Governor-elect Stan Stephens supporting funding for the Weed Coordinator position in the Montana Department of Agriculture. Motion passed. Chairman Thompson will send a letter immediately.

Next meeting will be February 12-13, 1989 in Helena. Rust will make arrangements for the meeting room and for a dinner meeting February 12.

Rust will send RAD brochures to Executive Committee members to help them in recruiting associate members. It was suggested that letters be sent to the Governor and new agency heads, explaining RAD and asking for their support and participation. This will need to be done during January.

Thank you letters to Kolstad and asking for continued support will be sent by conference Chairman Aasheim.

Meeting Evaluation

In general the Annual meeting went well. Subcommittee reports were excellent and several issues were identified for action by the RAD Executive committee.

It was noted that several members stayed into the second day to listen to the subcommittee reports.

Don moved, LeRoy seconded, that next year's subcommittee arrangements be handled that same as this year. It was moved by Ole, seconded by Forrest that next year's Annual Meeting be held on December 4, 5 and 6, 1989. Motion passed.

Rust will send sub committee reports back to Executive Committee members.

Officers for the Coming Year

The following were elected:
Frank Thompson - President
Mike Reichman - Vice President
Torlief Aasheim - Treasurer

Meeting adjourned at 2:55 P.M.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT
1988 ANNUAL MEETING
MONTANA RAD COMMITTEE
Holiday Inn - Bozeman, Montana
December 5, 6 & 7, 1988

RECEIPTS - Meals, Registration & Dues

Registration - 73 @ \$6.00	\$438.00
Lunch 12-6-88 - 60 @ \$6.00 (5 comp.)	360.00
Dinner 12-6-88 - 37 @ \$10.00 (13 comp.)	370.00
Lunch 12-7-88 - 28 @ \$6.00 (1 comp.)	<u>168.00</u>
Total	\$1,336.00

DUES

Annual - 39 @ \$10.00	\$390.00
Life - 1 @ \$50.00	50.00
Associate - 3 @ \$25.00	<u>75.00</u>
Total	\$515.00

TOTAL RECEIPTS	Dues, Meals & Registration	\$1,851.00
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EXPENDITURES

Lunch 12-6-88 - 65 @ \$5.85 (5 comp.)	\$336.37
Dinner 12-6-88 - 50 @ \$7.19 (13 comp.)	359.50
Lunch 12-7-88 - 28 @ \$5.69 (1 comp.)	159.32
Coffee Breaks	252.71
Room, Supplies & Duplicating	40.58
Total to Holiday Inn	\$1,148.48
Music & Flowers	<u>40.00</u>

TOTAL	\$1,188.48
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Receipts Minus Dues	\$1,336.00
Annual Meeting Costs	<u>1,188.00</u>
NET ABOVE COSTS	\$ 148.00

MINUTES
R.A.D. LAND & WATER SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
December 6, 1988

Attendance

<u>Name</u>	<u>Organization</u>	<u>Address</u>
Jim Medlicka	Carbon CD	Box 94, Fromberg
Ole Ueland	Rancher (State RCAC)	Silver Bow
Peggy Haaglund	MACD	Helena
Dennis McOmber	MT Farmers Union	Great Falls
Wallace Jolly	SCS	Bozeman
Jo Bruner	MT Water Resources Assn.	Power
W.A. Black		Gallatin Gateway
Michael Reichman	MT Power Company	Bozeman
Bob Lane	MACD	Three Forks
Mark Story	Gallatin Nat'l Forest	Bozeman
Ralph Bergantine	SCS	Bozeman
Bruce Beattie	Economics MSU	Bozeman
Bob Gillespie	AERO	Bozeman

Chairman Ueland called the meeting to order at 9:20 A.M.
Introductions were made.

1987 resolutions were reviewed as follows:

Res. #1

Relative to ask for coordination of all water research data.
Bruner stated that this is pretty much being done. No
further action recommended at this time.

Res. #2

Relative to problems with CRP signup and need for education
and explanation. After some discussion it was moved that
the RAD Land & Water subcommittee request the RAD Executive
Committee to express thanks to Extension and USDA, SCS, ASCS
agencies for providing good information in explaining the
provisions of the Farm Security Act and for administration
of a complicated program. Furthermore, it is requested that
rules made in Washington D.C. should be made more general
and able to be adapted to local conditions.

Res. #3

To encourage major forest landowners to continue to exchange
information to minimize cumulative impacts on water quality
was reaffirmed.

Res. #4

Which requests state legislature and state government that
funds originally legislated (earmarked) for specific
purposes, not be redirected for unrelated uses e.g. RIT;
State Lands funds for conservation practices.

Res. #5

Was reaffirmed to request RAD to support various ways to protect prime and important farm land in Montana.

Res. #6

Requests RAD to encourage and support efforts by DNRC, BIA, and Tribes to cooperate with the conservation districts and encourage additional conservation education and negotiations of suitable memorandums of understanding.

Res. #7

Oil rebate funds of \$500,000 were obtained for agricultural projects as favored by RAD. The second distribution of these funds will be in January, 1989.

Res. #8

Requests RAD to support ongoing research efforts to establish best management practices for riparian areas.

Res. #9

Relative to dam safety. It is recommended that RAD recommend that the state water plan consider low hazard dams so that they may not become high hazard by virtue of subsequent development below them.

Res. #10

Asks that RAD promote the reclamation of lands disturbed for highway construction purpose in order to reduce the spread of weeds, and furthermore that railroads and federal land agencies participate in weed control.

Bob Gillespie representing Alternative Energy Organization (AERO) gave a talk and slide presentation on "Sustainable Agriculture" sometimes called "low-input" - alias sustainable, biological or renewable - agriculture. A good discussion ensued.

Res. #11

Sustainable Agriculture - The Land and Water Subcommittee recommends that the Rural Area Development Committee continue to support the Montana Department of Agriculture, the Extension Service, AERO and other efforts in research, application of research and marketing of sustainable agriculture products, and urges that RAD make this a priority issue.

The subcommittee recessed at 12 noon and reconvened at 2:15 P.M. to address and "Analysis of Cost-Benefits for offstream, upstream, tributary water storage multiple uses."

Dr. Bruce Beattie, Economist at MSU, made a presentation which was very informative in the various ways to determine costs and benefits, present values, how to deal with inflation, market

values, incremental outputs, indirect and direct benefits, discount rates, etc.

Res. #12

Whereas a most stated purpose for a "state water plan" are recommendations to provide for more storage. The RAD Land & Water subcommittee lists the following as benefits that should be explored in more detail and requests that further cost-benefit research be done on these items with the idea of developing all means possible to finance construction of multiple use water projects:

Direct Offstream Benefits

Irrigation - supplemental
Irrigation - new full supply
Domestic - residential
Municipal
Industrial
Recreation - tourism
Drought relief
Groundwater recharge (return flows, repeated uses for above)

Indirect Benefits

Community development
Economic, social
to business interests
Taxes to support
government service
(Jobs)

Direct Instream Benefits

Fishery
Water Quality
Power
Recreation
Wildlife
Amenities
Flood control
Watershed protection

Downstream Benefits

Downstream States
for their direct and
indirect benefits,
navigation, etc.

Res #13

Realizing the importance of a guaranteed water supply for the various needs, such as agriculture, industry, recreation, water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, flood control and other beneficial uses:

The Land and Water subcommittee requests RAD to urge the Montana Departments and other entities who have need for water and for instream flow protection, to plan, organize, develop, and finance storage facilities that will result in multiple use storage facilities to ensure water supply for the needs of Montana.

RAD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Meeting December 7, 1988

REPORT OF THE FORESTRY SUB-COMMITTEE

Howard G. McDowell, Chairman

The sub-committee meeting attracted 18 attendees and participants.

1. The first topic was an "Update on Forest Taxation" by Randy Pearson of the Department of Revenue. The current schedule calls for new reappraised values for timber and land to be announced in 1990 and become effective in 1991. However, it is possible these dates may be extended two years, 1992-93. The reappraisal covers 3.5 million acres of private timberland in about 10,500 ownerships, but over 2 million of those acres are held by two companies, Plum Creek and Champion. (Also on the reevaluation schedule are 55 million acres of agricultural land and we have given up 15 minutes of our reporting time for Randy to talk about that.) He emphasized that the Department of Revenue establishes the market value, but the legislature provides the percentage rate for each class of property to arrive at the taxable value to which the millage rate is applied. Randy described the background of the current percentage rates of 30% for agricultural land and 3.86% for forestland and timber. There is a move in the legislature to eliminate tax classes; and another to make some amendments in the 1985 Green Belt law relating to the minimum 20 acre criteria. Randy's analysis of the current timber/land tax system indicates that it should be replaced by a land productivity tax, which would be more accurate, equitable and simpler to administer. He said that it would incur some heavy front end costs to establish, but would be much less costly in subsequent years. Another tax proposal that may surface is one to place a severance or yield tax on public timber, and noted the technical differences between severance and yield taxes, although both are taxes on timber harvested.
2. Hugh Zackheim of the Environmental Quality Council staff reviewed the recent draft report on The Forest Practices-Watershed Effects Study. (He spoke to us in 1987 on their plan for the study.) The study was mandated by the 1987 legislature in HJR47 and was to be used by EQC as a basis for any recommendations they would make to the 1989 legislature. The report describes the: current administrative structure and agencies involved in the subject issues; review of other western states which have forest practices legislation; the professional work groups which EQC brought together to formulate a set of Best

Management Practices (BMP's); and the field audits of use of these BMP's on 38 timber harvests on private industrial and non-industrial ownerships, Forest Service, BLM and state lands; conducted by 5 teams of resource professionals. The audits revealed that most of the BMP's were effectively applied. There were minor departures on most of the sales and a few major departures on some. The two areas having the most departures were the Streamside Protection Zone and Road Construction and Maintenance.

EQC distributed copies for comments and recommendations in early November and will meet December 9 to receive additional comments, and to make their decision on what to recommend to the legislature.

3. Our next series was related to Extension Forestry, a program which has had strong support from the subcommittee.

a) Dr. Richard Phillips, Assistant Director of the Extension Service explained how the Extension Forester position was funded through federal money appropriated under the Renewable Resources Extension Act (RREA), recently extended to 1995. The executive branch has never included RREA funding in the President's budget, but the Congress has provided the money in their appropriations acts, largely through the efforts of Senator Mark Hatfield, Chairman of the Senate Appropriation's Committee and his colleagues in the west, including the support of the entire Montana delegation. The funds available to Montana are barely sufficient to pay salaries, leaving very little for operating expenses. (The UM School of Forestry provides office space and equipment.) No other funds are available from Extension, and it was agreed that creative financing-grants and other types of aid would be needed to provide money for the Forestry Extension Digest, now discontinued, and for other informational publications, travel expenses, etc. The Extension Forester, to be most effective, has to travel to get to his constituencies. Dick also noted that Extension had reorganized its staff and saved \$220,000, which it hoped to apply to much needed field programs, but the legislature simply reduced their budget by that amount.

b) Bob Logan, our new Extension Forester gave us his background, -13 years with extension forestry in western Oregon and central California. He then described his activities during his first three months in Montana and discussed his projected plans for action in the coming year; which includes establishing an Extension Forestry Advisory Council. Among the issues he plans to pursue are: Best Management Practices education; workshops for non-industrial private landowners; and agro forestry. He will use the Advisory Council to help him establish priorities.

c) A series of panelists reviewed their organization's activities that related to the Extension:

1. Hank Goetz - UM School of Forestry, Lubrecht Forest/Forest and Range Conservation Station.
2. Don Artley - Department of State Lands, Division of Forestry. Private forestry assistance.
3. Glenn Roloff - U.S. Forest Service- Region One Division of State and Private Forestry.
4. Hal Hunter - USDA Soil Conservation Service, Forestry Specialist.
5. Don Wood - Forestry Consultant and past Chairman of the Montana Tree Farm Program.

4. Don Artley, Deputy State Forester, covered the next topic, "A New Approach to Meeting the State Hazard Reduction (Slash Disposal) Requirements." Current law requires that a landowner harvesting trees must reduce the fire hazard by disposing of the slash. The regulations say disposal must be "adequate." There has been criticism of lack of standards to define "adequate," and to the uneven administration of the law, including some efforts to include aesthetics in the "adequate" definition. To help resolve the problem, State Forester Gary Brown assembled a group of affected parties including major landowners, logging operators and state enforcement people. They have agreed to establish standards for disposal based upon fire behavior, the resistance to attack by hand crews. The basic criteria is known as the "four foot flame length." More stringent standards were developed for high risk conditions, such as rural home site areas. They are now putting together a photo series showing how various forest types should look following harvest in order to meet the standards. Now under discussion is how to implement these changes; the projected costs and how it will be funded. If it all falls together there will be a year long trial period to test the effectiveness of this approach.

5. The 1988 fire season in Montana was reviewed by Don Artley. He described it as one of the worst on record due to extremely low fuel moisture as a result of successive years of below average precipitation, combined with unusually erratic behavior of many fires. The state spent \$11½ million fighting fire on 872,000 acres, and this does not include fires fought by rural fire districts or those on federal lands. The season started early with a 1200 acre fire in February! The largest, most spectacular fires occurred in and around Yellowstone Park and Forest Service Wilderness areas, and led to severe criticism of the current policies on those lands. Those policies and their implementation are undergoing some very searching review and analysis by several professional fire organizations. Another important element receiving increased attention is the growing number of rural dwellings, the "homes in the woods" which present additional risks of life threatening

situations and property losses. Generally rural fire districts are responsible for home fire prevention and suppression while the Department of State Lands oversees those activities on forest lands. Sometimes the lines of responsibility become a little blurred. The need for better defined structures of effective interagency cooperation among all fire organizations, including the fire weather and behavior forecasters is the third major issue arising out of the 1988 fire season. Wilderness fire management policies, residential/wildland interface and interagency cooperation. Don closed with some fire statistics that covered all ownerships and administrative responsibilities:

32% of Yellowstone Park burned.

At peak of the fire activity - 16,000 fire fighters on line within the state of Montana the following totals:

1,238 fires burned 1.6 million acres of forest and rangeland and cost \$68 million to suppress.

Submitted,

Howard G. McDowell, Chairman

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE FORESTRY SUBCOMMITTEE
DECEMBER 7, 1988

FOREST PRACTICES - WATER QUALITY

The Forestry Subcommittee recommends that : The Rural Area Development Committee commend the Environmental Quality Council for their efforts in evaluating current forestry activities and the effectiveness of presently prescribed best management practices as required in House Joint Resolution 49. Based upon a summary of the Environmental Quality Council report presented by Hugh Zachiem and the experiences of Forestry Subcommittee membership, we feel a voluntary approach can provide adequate protection of Montana's water resources on forest lands.

As recommended by the Society of American Foresters Task Force Report, there is a need to strengthen our education/training effort. We therefore propose that the Executive Board of the Rural Area Development Committee encourage the development of an industry/agency cooperative to implement an effective education/training program to promote the Environmental Quality Council's Best Management Practices.

Considering the substantial efforts thus far by private, state and federal representatives, the Forestry Subcommittee further recommends that funding and organizational requirements for effective implementation be developed through a consensus approach from a joint steering committee representing a cross section of NIPF, Industrial Pvt, State, Forest Service, BLM and any other interest groups.

WILDERNESS FIRE MANAGEMENT RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, The forests of the Rocky Mountains have historically experienced naturally-caused wildfires, and these fires are important elements in natural forest ecology; and

WHEREAS, It is important that these fires be allowed to continue to shape the natural character of Montana's wilderness within carefully prescribed conditions of fuel, weather, and topography; and,

WHEREAS, The values of non-wilderness natural resources, private property, and risk to human life and limb must be protected; and,

WHEREAS, Wilderness fire management provides for the use of intentionally-set prescribed fire; and,

WHEREAS, The 1988 fire season is recognized as an extremely critical period of catastrophic fire behavior;

NOW THEREFORE, Be it resolved that the M.R.A.D.C. urges the Departments of Interior and Agriculture to maintain the

current policies toward naturally occurring fires, and further to critically review their respective wilderness fire management policies in terms of the severity of the 1988 fire season;

FURTHER, That all fire agencies accelerate research into fire behavior, management and suppression strategies and tactics, developing more reliable predictive models;

FURTHER, That it be recognized that the 1988 fire season may not be an anomaly for catastrophic fire situations;

FURTHER, That the agencies give stronger consideration to, and more aggressively use, options of intentionally-set fires under carefully prescribed conditions to better disperse fire's impacts over wider time frames and areas to accomplish natural fire objectives and to avoid periodic catastrophic conditions;

FURTHER, That when prescription parameters demand suppression action be taken, that such action be as timely and aggressive as possible, utilizing all necessary manpower and equipment as provided by law;

FURTHER, that protection of non-wilderness natural resource values, private property and risk to human life and limb be taken into consideration in any prescription;

FURTHER, that the agencies strengthen the coordination between and involvement of other fire agencies in planning in the event of fires which have the potential for escape from the wilderness.

WEED SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
DECEMBER 6, 1988

The meeting was called to order with ten members present. First item of business was a report from Barbra Mullen, state weed coordinator. Barb reported we have 39 projects funded through the noxious weed trust fund. It is a very successful program and has paid out 1.3 million dollars to date. Fifty-eight percent of this has gone to the ground weed control projects, 31% has gone to research and the remaining 11% has been for other new and innovative projects such as public awareness programs, educational material, weed control recommendation hand book for CRP, etc.

The big concern was the removal of funding for the position of weed coordinator from the budget from Gov. Schwinden's office. Mr. Kolstad said they were unaware of this since the Stephen's budget committee had just received the Schwinden budget on Dec. 1 and had until Dec. 15 to review and accept or change it. He requested a letter from the RAD executive committee stating the problem and requesting it be placed back in the budget. Our committee prepared the letter and we will be requesting immediate action at their meeting this afternoon so we can get this request in this week.

LeRoy Luft filled us in on the progress at the Plant Growth Center at MSU. He was pleased with the usage and management of the facility. Pete Fay was very supportive of the program. There was a discussion of the need and possible use of the building expansion proposal for pathogen studies. This building expansion would be federally funded. It was agreed that it needs to be pursued as well as staffing for that work. LeRoy passed on the results of the town hall meetings showing weeds near the top. It was requested that MSU require a weed science and pesticide training course in the range and forest curriculum. Also some public relations training to better convey their work to the general public and people they work with in the field.

Cel Lacey was present and gave us a report on her activities since leaving her job as state weed coordinator. She is still an active weed fighter.

The afternoon was taken up with discussion with representatives from the state soil conservation office. Our main concern was with the two million acres under contract with the CRP program. It was agreed there were drought and insect problems beyond anyone's control so we have to make the best of the situation until more favorable weather conditions arrive. It was determined the weed control guidelines for CRP needed better distribution to people involved in the program. The chemical industry people present reported problems in collecting for some of the spraying applications this year because of poor weed control results due to dry weather. It seems SCS refused to pay the farmer and the farmer couldn't pay the applicator and the

applicator was unable to pay the chemical supplier. They will try to work out a solution before next season. Another issue discussed with the soil conservation people was the fact they do not consider noxious weed control on range land a conservation measure. This problem has been argued for some time but to no avail. They still can't see it as a conservation measure to control noxious weeds.

Further committee discussion was in regard to the weed fighter award. We presented two nominations last year in September and October but was determined too late to consider by the Executive Committee. We will attempt to get some in earlier next year.

Some people had to leave to attend a legislative meeting in Butte so meeting was adjourned.

Wayne Pearson
Chairman

LIVESTOCK-RANGE SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING
DECEMBER 6, 1988

ATTENDANCE

Willie Milliron, Chairman
Dale Davis
Frank Sparks
Kim Enkerud
Charles Rust
Clint Peck
Dennis Phillippi
Pat Currie
Connie Townsend
Bill Hardman
Bob Ross
Celestine Lacey
Don Heinz
John Lacey
Joe Helle
Janet Edmonds
John Jones

ADDRESS

Manhattan
Belgrade
Plevna
Helena
Bozeman
Billings
Bozeman
Miles City
White Sulphur Springs
Missoula
Bozeman
Helena
Billings
Bozeman
Dillon
Miles City
Bozeman

RAD Livestock-Range Subcommittee met December 6, 1988 at the Holiday Inn in Bozeman. The meeting was chaired by Willie Milliron. The following topics were discussed:

1. **Educational Video on Wolf Recovery Plans**

Lacey and Sparks reviewed the draft script and the videos. Mr. John Jones, of Video Vision, recommended that our videos could be used in a low-budget production, but were unsuitable for a top-quality film. He felt that some good footage probably existed, but would take time to locate. Good footage could probably be purchased for \$1,000 per minute. He felt that production costs for a quality film would vary from \$5,000 to \$25,000.

The emotionalism of re-introducing wolves into the ecosystem and of predators killing livestock was discussed. It was felt that the video would have to be non-biased, but should capture some emotions of agricultural producers.

Joe Helle discussed the wolf-human exhibit that will be displayed at the Museum of the Rockies. The Museum is paying from \$40,000-\$50,000 to rent the exhibit for a 3-month period. The exhibit is biased toward the re-introduction of the wolf. The Agricultural community needs to do something to offset the impact of the exhibit. At this time, there is no definite strategy.

The Subcommittee passed a resolution directing Kim Enkerud to arrange a meeting between the representatives of the Livestock-Range Subcommittee, Stockgrowers, and Wool Growers.

The meeting is tentatively scheduled to be held in Helena, possibly on January 11 or 12.

2. Section 8

Enkerud discussed the Section 8. It is an approach designed to improve cooperation between permittees and Federal land management agencies. It has been implemented in Montana. It allows a third party to provide input into allotment management plans. Hardman questioned whether it was needed. Lacey indicated that he felt it was needed.

3. Range & Animal Science Curriculum at MSU

Clayton Marlow reviewed the proposed changes. They were precipitated by the decision regarding the semester schedule in 1990, the declining enrollment in the Ag college and the importance of natural resources in Montana.

The proposal considered bringing wildlife into the Animal & Range Science Department and developing undergraduate programs in land rehabilitation and watershed management. The new degree would read "Natural Resource" with an option in range, wildlife, land rehabilitation or watershed.

Currie asked, "How does the Animal Science group fit into the scheme?" He felt that Montana needed the range and animal programs to be together.

Peck mentioned the possibility that the proposed wildlife emphasis may impair the mission of the College of Agriculture. (Namely to do agricultural research and extension.) Bob Ross mentioned that most range graduates come out of school without livestock experience, and the proposed change would aggravate the problem.

Dennis Phillippi indicated that the "Natural Resource" designation on the student's diploma definitely would not help the students with their Civil Service Ratings. Connie Townsend felt that the proposed change would erode the support that agricultural groups provide MSU. Peck agreed that it looked like a "sell-out" from the agriculture viewpoint.

Currie mentioned that animal science students should take more range classes. He reported that at Utah State, the Dean made students take what was needed. Thus, range students went to the Ag College and took Animal Science courses; and Animal Science students went to the Natural Resource College and took range courses.

Joe Helle discussed the importance of "land" management and that the biggest problem of most college graduates is their

complete lack of livestock knowledge. He raised the issue of moving the forestry school at U. of M. to MSU.

The discussion proceeded to the issue of efficiency. It was felt that students at a University should be able to take courses in another department and/or college. Montana cannot afford the luxury of deans and professors doing their own thing. It is counter-productive. The need for more communications and integration within MSU was discussed.

Marlow felt most instructors were not thrilled about teaching in other departments. No enough recognition. Linton mentioned that quality-control of subject content is also a problem when students are taking courses from another college or department.

It was resolved that the Livestock Range Subcommittee meet with the Administration at MSU and with the Board of Regents to evaluate and recommend strategies to improve levels of communication and interaction between Deans, Colleges, and Departments at MSU. Willie Milliron, Dennis Phillippi, Bob Ross, Frank Thompson, Dale Davis, Pat Currie and Clint Peck volunteered to tackle the assignment.

4. Ranch Training for Government Employees

Dennis Phillippi reported that a farm and ranch background is a key to SCS employees. He discussed how the lack of practical experience limited the effectiveness of college graduates. The Soil Conservation Service recognizes the problem and has developed a training program with Texas Christian University. Some new employees are sent to ranches in Texas - where they live and work for 3-8 weeks. The SCS pays the employees salary and pays \$300-\$400 to the rancher.

Phillippi presented a strong argument that a similar program should be started in Montana. The Livestock and Range Subcommittee recommended that the feasibility of developing a similar program in Montana be evaluated. Phillippi and Lacey would summarize the whats, whys, and wheres of the ranch-livestock training program and then forward the report to the Federal Land Management Agencies, Stockgrowers, and Wool Growers.

Russ Unruh and Kris Havatad were selected as recipients of the Annual Rancher and Range Technician Awards, respectively.

Meeting adjourned.

LEADERSHIP SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

DECEMBER 6, 1988

Bob Evertz, Chairman

MLDA - Origin KEEP

(Beginning of my interest in leadership - Nixon.)

MLDA & RAD - similarity to Woodland Council - existing organization serving as sub-committee.

Goals - to provide leadership training to rural communities.

HOW Through members trained in Communication, decision making, conflict management - "group dynamics." Contract with professionals - use Extension Specialists.

FCL Cosponsors with Extension, Montana Homemakers, MLDA, Kellogg Grant for 3-year program. Three women and County Agent from six counties trained as trainers each year. Must commit 30 hours of their time to training people in their community.

MLDA encourages sub-committees to allot some meeting time to providing some aspect of leadership training - even 1 hour.

Committee met in October - will have annual meeting in Helena February 11 and 12. Contact Bob Evertz for more details.

AG POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING

December 6, 1988

Attendance:	Address	Organization
Gene Hawkes	16 Cloninger Ln. Boze.	Public Land Access.
Bob Martinka	1420 e. 6th Ave. Helena	FWP Dept.
John Antle	Bozeman	Economics Dept. MSU
Mack Quinn	Big Sandy, MT	Farm Bureau
Myles Watts	Bozeman	Ag Econ Dept, MSU
Lyle Pratt	Helena	USDA, MASS
Jim Stephens	415 Wilda Lane, Bozeman	
Warren H. Ross	Rte 72, Box 18, Chinook	
Paul Ringling	Box 1029, Miles City	
Bob Evertz	Box 323, Joliet	
Jim Bermes	Box 16, Molt 59057	
Bob Bucher	319 N. 9th, Bozeman	
Russ Twedt	Box 296, Rudyard 59540	
Jim Johnson	MSU, Bozeman	Extension Specialist
Frank "Bud" Daniels	Box 391, Sidney	
Randy Johnson	Box 1165, Gt. Falls	MT Grain Growers
Jeff LaFrance	MSU, Linfield Hall	Ag. Economics

Roy Hoffman opened the discussion.
Keep an open mind.

Professor Jeff LaFrance of the Ag Econ Dept., MSU opened with the history of the Farm Program.

1. 1910 through 1914 - Golden Years for Ag - formed basis for farm programs policies.
2. 1922 through the 1930's was a start in Farm Policy of Today.
3. Farm Credit started - Farm Coops started - Copper Volstad Act as implimented.
4. Mandatory control production programs were declared unconstitutional by Congress in 1936.
5. 1936 prices low - supply high during time of Depression.
6. Ag. had the best lobbyist at the time.
7. Ag Policy changes - WW2; Korean War; Russian Deal - etc.
8. Domestic & Foreign Farm Policy.
9. Ag Credit Program started in 1916 with start of Fed. Land Bank - Farm Credit Act of 1933.
10. Farm Credit has been one of the biggest part of Ag Policy! Discount Loans.
11. Cash Flow is the biggest problem of Ag today.
12. Farm & Ranch economy related to main street business has done quite well.
13. Commodity Support Programs over the years discussed - Dairy prices support - Dairy buy out, Price support loans.
14. Wheat farmers refused marketing quotas first year - voted them in second year.
15. Voluntary mandatory marketing quotas went out.
16. Subsidy during the 70's went from 50 cents P/B to well over \$2.00 due to the ammount of grain to the Soviets.

17. 1981 - Parity was abandoned on milk and tobacco.
18. Erosion in the level price support due to level of debt.
19. Level of farm programs should be \$16 billion rather than \$26 billion.
20. Farm Policies will continue to be there, because people believe in them - we must work on these as a foundation.

John Antle - Trade Policy - (Production economics and Policy & Trade) Future of Montana Ag.

1. Farm programs & Policies are not intended to be permanent.
2. Open/closed economy operation (Local & world economy.)
3. GAAT - International trade as it relates to AG.
4. Exchange rate manipulation.
5. Degree of Subsidation of Ag exports (EEP)(Tariff)
6. Government monopolies over export - (Japan or Canadian Wheat Board).
7. Trade policies - Import control tariffs - Small costs to the government but high cost to the consumer due to supply controls.
8. GATT - established just after WW2 (promote Free trade-eliminates quotas (Eurogoy round now going on to faze out all ag policies).
9. Need for reduction in ag subsidy.
10. Ag was excluded from GATT - now it is trying to take a role.
11. Food Aid - started after WW2 (PL480).
12. Egypt is a major receiver of US wheat due to Camp David Agreement - under PL 480.
13. Major importers of wheat and rice have become exporters.
14. $PSE = (Value\ with\ Support) - (Value\ w/d\ Support) + (Direct\ Payment) - (Producer\ Fees)$.
15. Produce subsidy - B/V is larger than wheat.
16. Decupling - subsidize ag but not related to production.
17. Why do farmers get subsidized and not other segments of economy - due to well organized lobbyists.

Jim Johnson

1. Jim opened with comments on the current ag policy.
2. Target price - Loan Price - Deficiency payment. ACR (acreage cons. reserve).
3. What does the "85" farm program mean to the producers?
4. The various options of participating in the program versus the CRP.
5. 23 million acres nationally in CRP - about 230,000 acres in MT.
6. Hopes to get up to 43 million acres in CRP.
7. Subtitle B: C: D:
8. Jim explained the 1990 mandatory Soil Conservation Plan.
9. A discussion as to the rigidity of the compliance with the conservation plan and the importance of knowing what's going on from the standpoint of economic survival.
10. Plan must be in place by January 1990 and fully implemented by 1995.

11. Much concern was expressed regarding living with and working with the plan.
12. Jasper Womack CRS report to congress.
13. \$3 billion P/Y for cost of ag \$12 billion 1982 - \$26 billion 1986.
14. Jim reviewed all aspects of the present program and potentials for new programs.
15. Jim explained Melchers' optimism and view on the outlook for the new program.
16. We reviewed the paper prepared by Jim on the case of Sugar B and sugar policy.
17. We had a general discussion for the last few minutes, where does our committee go from here.
18. Russ Tweet reports on a meeting by Lloyd Schaffer and others who propose a bushel quota.
19. Roy H. suggested that some of this committee check with Canadian producers as to their program to see if it could work for us.
20. Final decision by the committee was that the RAD committee bring subcommittees together at a later date in conjunction with some other meeting to try to come up with a statement on new farm policy.

RAD Safety and Chemical Sub-Committee
December 6, 1988

The RAD Safety and Chemical Sub-Committee met at the Holiday Inn of Bozeman at 10:15 a.m. Eight members were present.

Roy Linn presented an overview of the new thrust in the area of safety. This effort is, in part, the result of a \$6000 working agreement between the Workers Compensation Division and the Extension Service. This new thrust will involve the establishment of a bi-monthly newsletter, a full day workshop for farm wives and families, hazardous occupational training for youth age 14 and 15, safety training in agriculture in VoAg classes, and a workshop for Emergency Medical Technicians.

George Algard reviewed what the State Department of Agriculture has been doing in the area of water quality. George said many agencies and universities are getting involved in the water quality program. His department has been testing for chemicals in ground water for the past few years. Studies show that 73 different pesticides have been found in ground water in 34 states. The Montana testing has turned up low levels of 2,4-D, MCPA, dicomho, tordon and others. About 75% of the chemicals used in Montana are herbicides. The best way to keep chemicals out of our ground water is by education and prevention. It is very costly for a person to have to install filterization on their wells. About \$700 to \$1000 for the system and \$50-\$75 a month for filters and more for heavy users of water.

George also gave a short rundown on the proposed cancellation of technical Compound 1080 and the suspension of all above-ground uses of strychnine which is used to control prairie dogs, Richardson ground squirrels and rabid skunks. As the result of this discussion, two proposed resolutions will be presented for the R.A.D. committee support.

Other topics discussed included the possibility to provide educational workshops for farmers, ranchers and their families which in turn may be used to reduce the rate at which farmers pay for workers compensation insurance. Roy Linn will meet with the Workers Comp official to see if this is possible.

Dr. Clinton Van Shelhamer of Ag & Industrial Education and myself plan to submit a grant proposal to the Office of Commissioner of Higher Education for Carl Perkins Vocational Educational Act Funds. This proposal will be to share information and machinery modification with handicapped farmers and ranchers.

A representative from the Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau was scheduled to provide information on disposal of hazardous wastes, new regulations set up by EPA on sanitary landfills and regulations on underground storage tanks. This person was unable to attend our meeting. The safety and chemical sub-committee recommend that the RAD committee request a presentation by the Solid and Hazardous Waste Bureau at their next meeting or as early as can be scheduled.

The safety and chemical sub-committee adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Submitted by:

Roy Linn
Chairman
RAD Safety & Chemical Sub-Committee

Proposed Resolutions

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has issued a temporary suspension of all above-ground uses of strychnine, and;

WHEREAS, there are no effective alternative methods for controlling prairie dogs, Richardson ground squirrels and rabid skunks in Montana, and;

WHEREAS, EPA may allow strychnine uses if certain registration data requirements can be met, and;

WHEREAS, the USDA-APHIS/ADC Denver Wildlife Research Center is capable of filling these data gaps with proper findings;

WHEREAS, it is estimated that production loss and damage due to prairie dogs and Richardson ground squirrels amount to 2 to 3 million dollars per year in Montana.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montana RAD Executive Committee strongly urge the Montana Congressional Delegation to support funding of USDA/APHIS to achieve continued strychnine registration.

Proposed Resolutions

WHEREAS, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has proposed cancellation of the technical Compound 1080 product, and;

WHEREAS, there are no other currently known or available controls for the Columbian ground squirrel in Montana, and;

WHEREAS, EPA has identified certain data gaps that, if filled, may permit the reregistration of Compound 1080, and;

WHEREAS, the USDA/APHIS/ADC Denver Wildlife Research Center is capable of generating some data needed for reregistration of Compound 1080 with appropriate funding;

WHEREAS, it is estimated that the Columbian ground squirrels cause \$700,000 loss each year in Montana due to equipment damage, down time, livestock injury and crop production loss.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Montana RAD Executive Committee strongly urge the Montana Congressional Delegation to support funding of USDA/APHIS to achieve continued Compound 1080 registration.

REPORT FROM RAD RECREATION AND WILDLIFE SUBCOMMITTEE

Presented by
JIM RICHARD, CHAIRMAN

LANDOWNER/CONSERVATIONIST AWARD

At Torlief Aasheim's suggestion, the committee discussed the idea of presenting an award to a landowner who has implemented outstanding conservation practices that have benefitted wildlife or wildlife habitat. The award would not be for allowing access or hunting, but for land management practices that enhanced wildlife or habitat.

A number of organizations and agencies have tried, or investigated, such awards. The committee will contact agencies and organizations in Montana and outside the state that have had experience with award programs, before making a recommendation to the Executive Committee.

DELIST GRIZZLY BEAR AS THREATENED SPECIES

Arnold Dood, state endangered species officer for Fish, Wildlife and Parks, explained the status of delisting the grizzly bear as an endangered species, and concerns with the federal Endangered Species Act.

Dood expressed concern with the federal processs used by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list and delist threatened and endangered species. Part of the problem is that the agency has recovery goals that are not always clear and quantifiable, or are changed in the middle of the process. Also, the process allows little opportunity for local publics (ranchers, sportsmen) to access and influence the process. National groups with Washington headquarters are able to attend meetings and participate, but location of meetings or hearings in Washington or Denver creates real difficulties for local people to participate.

The population of grizzly bears in the northern continental ecosystem has reached levels and a stability that meet the goals and objectives of the present recovery plan, and the grizzly should be delisted as a threatened species in that region. As a matter of fact, the population met the delisting criteria at the time the plan was adopted, according to Dood.

However, the USFWS has undertaken a process to revise the recovery and delisting standards, which will result in a delay of several years before the delisting could be implemented.

Delisting of the grizzly bear will allow management by the state of Montana, rather than the USFWS as is the case now with

the bear listed as a threatened species. State management, rather than federal management has real implications for Montanans. First, local residents would be able to participate in the management decision-making process. Second, the FWP could provide better control over damage-causing bears and provide better protection for property and livestock.

BLACK-FOOTED FERRET RECOVERY

At present there are no known black-footed ferrets in the wild, Dood told the subcommittee. A population that existed near Meteeetze, Wyoming, has been live-trapped and placed in several breeding facilities to increase the population. There are now 58 ferrets in these facilities, and are successfully reproducing in captivity.

The ferret recovery plan proposes to reintroduce ferrets back into the wild at a site in South Dakota, and at one of three sites in Phillips County in Montana. The prime site is on the Charles M. Russell National Wildlife Refuge. The schedule calls for reintroducing ferrets in 1991, with successful recovery by 1992 and possible delisting by 1993.

At present, a landowner who wants to use chemicals to control prairie dogs is required by rodenticide label restrictions to conduct a ferret search. That ferret search must be conducted under strict guidelines, and can be expensive and difficult.

If the ferret can be successfully recovered in the several proposed sites, the label restriction for ferret search can be lifted, providing greater freedom for effective prairie dog control by landowners.

WOLF RECOVERY

According to Dood, the current position of the state of Montana toward wolf recovery is that the state will support and participate in wolf recovery if the animal is not listed as a threatened or endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. If the wolf is not listed, the management would be under the state Fish, Wildlife and Parks, rather than under the federal Fish and Wildlife Service.

Again, the real implications of state management is the greater control of wolf populations that would be exercised, and the involvement of local people in wolf management.

Sportsmen's organizations such as the Montana Wildlife Federation have not yet taken a position on the recovery of wolves, because good, solid information on the projected impact on livestock and wildlife depredations is not available. What is

needed is the assimilation of facts and data, and wide-spread public education.

ELK MANAGEMENT PLAN

John Mundinger of the FWP discussed the state-wide elk management plan that the Department is currently developing. The Department has divided the state into 35 elk management units. The intent is to look at each unit, and to develop objectives for each unit.

In each unit the objectives will include such considerations as:

- the number of acres producing elk
- the number of elk
- population ratios -- bulls:cows; cows:calves
- trophy elk management (number of branch-antlered bulls vs. spikes)
- elk security -- cover, forage, road density
- the percent of bulls harvested in the first week of hunting

The FWP sees the task as one of "how to manage the public's resource when it occurs on private land."

The FWP will be sending out a mass mailing in January to seek public comment on the objectives for each elk unit. The mailing will be in the form of a newspaper, and will describe each unit, the suggested objectives, and will have articles on elk management. After the results of the mailing response has been compiled, the FWP will develop a draft elk management plan that it will take around for comment at public meetings. The Department hopes to have recommendations for the Fish and Game Commission by July.

MULTIPLE USE OF STATE LANDS

Rich Day, Executive Director of the Montana Wildlife Federation, explained that Montana has 5.2 million acres of state-owned lands administered by the Department of State Lands. Montana is only one of approximately three states that do not allow public access of state lands. He said that Wyoming has allowed day-use of state-lands for hunting and fishing since the 1940's. People could only travel by foot or horseback and could not camp.

Recently the Wyoming State Land Board amended its administrative rules to allow other forms of non-motorized recreation. Sportsmen and landowners in Wyoming appear to have gotten together on this issue, as there seems to be few problems.

The RAD Recreation and Wildlife Committee believes that the state lands access issue is not going to go away unless there is some resolution effort to solve the issue.

The committee recommended a resolution to the RAD Executive Committee. The resolution states that RAD supports legislation that would allow limited public use of state lands. The use would be restricted to day use, non-motorized activities, to those state lands that only can be reached by legal public routes (a person could not cross private land to reach state lands). Also, the legislation would establish a recreation users fee for people using state lands. The revenues generated by the recreation fee would be earmarked for the education trust fund.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

Recommended by
RAD Recreation and Wildlife Subcommittee

WHEREAS, 5.2 million acres of state-owned lands are managed by the state Department of State Lands for the purpose of generating revenue for the school trust fund, and

WHEREAS, Montana sportsmen and other recreationists are pushing for a reasonable degree of access to state lands, and are willing to pay a recreation fee to compensate the school trust fund, and

WHEREAS, Montana is only one of approximately 3 states that do not provide for public use of state lands, and neighboring states such as Wyoming have allowed restricted levels of recreation access for decades without serious landowner conflicts, and

WHEREAS, a lawsuit recently filed against the Department of State Lands has created a negative climate in which to constructively address the issue of multiple use of state lands, and

WHEREAS, RAD can, and desires to, play a role in helping reach a positive resolution of this issue;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that RAD support and help facilitate a cooperative effort among the Department of State Lands, landowners, sportsmen and other recreationists to draft legislation that would provide for a reasonable level of access to state lands by the general public.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that such legislation may:

provide for a recreation fee that would be earmarked for the state school trust fund,

limit public access only to those state lands that may be legally reached by public routes, and

place restrictions on public use, such as
 day use only,
 no vehicle travel, except on established roads

NOTE: Suggestions by the general meeting included:

1. excluding islands in navigable rivers from proposal for public access.
2. not excluding cultivated lands from proposal

FINANCIAL REPORT
MONTANA RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

For the Period
November 1, 1987 - November 2, 1988

INCOME AND BALANCE CARRIED FORWARD

Bank Balance - November 1, 1987		\$ 156.89
Income Annual Meeting 1987		
Registration (55 @ \$6)	\$ 330.00	
Lunch (49 @ \$6) (5 comp)	294.00	
Dinner (49 @ \$12) (7 comp)	588.00	
Lunch (31 @ \$6) (2 comp)	<u>186.00</u>	
Total Income for Annual Meeting		\$1398.00
Dues for 1988		
Annual (73 @ \$10)	\$ 730.00	
Life (1 @ \$50)	50.00	
Associate (11 @ \$25)	275.00	
Sustaining (1 @ \$100)	100.00	
Anonymous	<u>55.00</u>	
Total Dues		\$1210.00
Interest		<u>8.09</u>
Carryover and Total Income		\$2772.98

EXPENDITURES

Postage	\$ 283.49	
Telephone	116.67	
Typing & duplicating	205.00	
Supplies	44.16	
Mailing Permit & Secretary of State	60.00	
Flowers & Music	35.00	
Pins (RAD)	153.50	
Coffee Breaks & Servers at Meeting	255.15	
Candy for Secretaries	55.00	
Placque	36.95	
GranTree Meals & Coffee Services	<u>1387.13</u>	
Total Expenditures		\$2632.05
BANK BALANCE NOVEMBER 2, 1988		\$ 140.93

MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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December 21, 1988

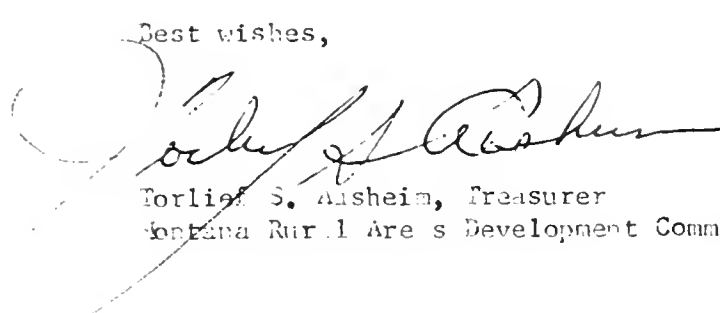
Dennis C. Elder
Executive Secretary
Champion International Corporation
P.O. Box B
Billtown, Montana

Dear Mr. Elder:

This will acknowledge receipt of your \$400.00 contribution
to the Montana Rural Areas Development Committee.

Thank you very much for this fine expression of support.

Best wishes,



Torlief S. Aasheim, Treasurer
Montana Rural Areas Development Committee

MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

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7 December 1988

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Governor-Elect Stan Stephens
Room 202, Capitol Building
Helena, MT 59620

Dear Governor-Elect Stephens:

Weeds are of primary concern to all Montana agricultural producers. The 1985 and 1987 legislatures supported the Montana noxious weed program by enacting the Noxious Weed Trust Fund Act, funding it with a herbicide surcharge and a noxious weed vehicle tax. They also created the State Weed Coordinator position and funded it with state general fund monies. This program is administered through the Montana Department of Agriculture.

The purpose of the Noxious Weed Trust Fund Act is to provide "seed" money to help support cooperative weed management programs across Montana. The Weed Coordinator administers the Trust Fund, acts as a liaison between local county weed districts and state/federal agencies, and provides technical assistance concerning weed management for weed districts and community weed projects. Because it is seen as being extremely efficient, this program has had widespread support from the ag chemical industry, as well as from farm and ranch organizations. The money raised goes to support weed management, not state administration of the program.

Governor Schwinden's Office of Budget and Programs eliminated all general fund appropriations for the Weed Coordinator position. This will require use of revenues generated by the herbicide surcharge and vehicle tax to be used for program administration rather than having the money going directly into much needed weed management programs.

The Rural Areas Development Committee objects to the diversion of these special tax revenues to support government administration costs. We request that you add general funding back into the Montana Department of Agriculture budget to include general fund support of the approved budget for the State Weed Coordinator, as well as

MONTANA STATE RURAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

for the approved modified budget giving additional needed office support staff to the weed coordinator.

We would like to see the Stephens' administration continue their support of the Montana Noxious Weed Program by letting special revenues such as the vehicle tax and herbicide surcharge go to support local weed management efforts. We would also like to see the Stephens' administration support adequate general fund money for the State Weed Coordinator Position.

If you have specific questions regarding the Montana Weed Program, you can contact Barbra Mullin, State Weed Coordinator, 444-2402

Thank you for your support of this important Montana issue.

Sincerely,

Frank Thompson, Chairman
RAD Executive Committee

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